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## Mintoff ends Carrington's trip at airport

By CAMPBELL PAGE

Mr Dom Mintoff, Prime Minister of Malta, yesterday crowned three and a half tempestuous weeks in office by forcing the last-minute cancellation of a visit by Lord Carrington, the British Secretary for Defence.

As the Minister was sitting in a Comet at Heathrow Airport-London ready to take off for Valletta, the Foreign Office received a message from Mr Mintoff transmitted by the British High Commissioner in Malta, Sir Duncan Watson. Lord Carrington immediately left the aircraft and returned to London.

Paradoxically, the British Government had felt that, in view of earlier verbal barterings from Valletta, it was showing much goodwill in sending a senior Minister to discuss defence and financial arrangements. Valetta has strongly criticised Britain and NATO, claiming that the British Government has deliberately procrastinated in replying to Mr Mintoff's demands.

Mr Mintoff has also complained that the British Government was in addition mounting a press campaign against the Maltese Government. Ministerial visits are usually organised when specific proposals have been made by the other side but Lord Carrington was prepared to go and talk on the basis of outline proposals. These are all Malta has put forward so far.

Mr Mintoff's last-minute message was undiplomatic by any standards. It was clear that he did not want Lord Carrington's visit at the moment. Early unofficial reactions on the British side were marked by a sense of outrage. The message followed careful preparations to ensure useful talks. The Foreign Secretary, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, told the Commons on Monday that the preparatory talks had been going on for the past four days.

The Foreign Office said last night that the British Government had had great difficulty in agreeing with Mr Mintoff on the basis on which Lord Carrington would discuss the issue today when he replies to a question on Malta.

The commonsense point seems to be that Mr Mintoff had plenty of chances to raise further questions in the days before Lord Carrington fixed his visit. The lateness of Mr Mintoff's message looks like an attempt to throw a spanner in the works or to gain an easy concession when the British Government had little time to react.

Under the existing Agreement Britain pays Malta about £5 million a year and has the use of military facilities on the island. One unofficial estimate of how much more Mr Mintoff wants Britain to pay puts the figure at about £14 million.

The Maltese economy has had a difficult time recently and tourism has declined.

It is difficult to see how the British Government can now confidently reorganise Lord Carrington's visit with the certainty that there will not be another last-minute disruption.

If Britain seriously fears the possibility of Soviet access to Malta, then Mr Mintoff has some strong cards to play. If not, then he has a weak hand, further weakened by his majority of only one in Malta's House of Representatives. He would also have a considerable problem in persuading the Maltese people to accept Soviet ships.

Mr Mintoff's weeks in office have been marked by an abrasive style. He has forced the departure of a NATO admiral, compelled a change in the Governor-Generalship, closed Malta to the American Sixth Fleet, and announced a retrospective abrogation of the 1964 Defence Agreement with Britain.

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Guest conductors in York yesterday: André Emil, of France (left) and Hubert Frenssen, of Belgium. They were directing traffic during International Police Week, which is being held as part of the city's 1,900th anniversary celebrations

## Church unity closer

THE Church of England moved closer to union with the Methodists yesterday when its General Synod voted by a large majority for provisional acceptance of the scheme for unity. (Report, page 5).

## Channel 'first'

A JOURNALIST yesterday became the first person to swim the Bristol Channel. Kevin Murphy, aged 22, from Harrow, swam 24 miles from Porlock Bay, Devon, to Porthcawl, Glamorgan, 16 hours, 3 minutes. He has also swum the English Channel both ways, and the North Sea Channel from Ireland to Scotland.

## V & G hearing

CONFIDENTIAL documents were removed from the Department of Trade and Industry in an employee's shoplifting case, the V and G tribunal heard yesterday. (Report, page 5).

## Brewery bid

WATNEY Mann breweries last night made a bid of nearly £47 million for Trumans. (Report, page 14).

## A poll on Europe

WHAT will industry do about the prospect of joining the Common Market? Will it increase its investment here, or in Europe, and if so when? How important are the Commonwealth preferences that would vanish? To answer these and other questions, the Guardian has polled the directors of more than 100 of Britain's biggest companies. Their replies will be published tomorrow. This poll, the first of its kind since the success of the Brussels negotiations, will provide important new information for the debate on Europe. The value of our poll as an indicator was established after the Budget, when the poll showed clearly that in spite of the euphoria of the stock market and a big improvement in business confidence, prices and unemployment were likely to go on rising, while production would remain flat.

## Britain to re-equip Iranian army

By DAVID FAIRHALL, Defence Correspondent

Royal ordnance factories have won an order, which must be worth at least £80 million, to re-equip the Iranian army with hundreds of Chieftain battle tanks. The deal has yet to be officially announced in either London or Tehran, although the fact that it was under negotiation has been known for many months and was first reported in the Guardian on May 6, 1970.

Its successful conclusion is a welcome boost to the new British tank's sales campaign, which notably failed to attract the Dutch army's order, and was stopped dead in Israel by a political embargo.

But in one sense it could prove almost too successful. Military sources suggest that the Iranian army intends to re-equip all its armoured units over the next few years, which means buying perhaps 700 to 800 vehicles, including bridge-layers and recovery vehicles based on the basic Chieftain hull.

This would tie up the British ordnance factories capacity over that period, and put back delivery dates offered to other potential customers.

To avoid this handicap on further sales—which may include the Israelis—Vickers has been asked to build 140 of the Iranian tanks in Newcastle. It was this order that was cryptically referred to at the company's last annual general meeting by the retiring chairman, Sir Leslie Rowan, although it has still not been officially confirmed. The main Government factory involved is at Leeds, where Chieftains for the British army are built.

The price of Chieftain, with its uniquely powerful, independently stabilised 120mm gun and heavy armour, must by now have escalated to well beyond the £100,000 that was being quoted some years ago. With spares, ammunition, and maintenance equipment, each vehicle going to Iran will probably cost between £150,000 and £200,000.

The British tank's competitors are the German Leopard, the American M60, the French AMX 30 and, in Iran's case, the Russian T54/55. The Iranian army is at present equipped with American tanks but uses Soviet anti-aircraft guns.

The Foreign Office policy of not disturbing the military balance in the Middle East has so far prevented Chieftain sales either to Israel or the Arab countries in conflict with her. But Iran has never been covered by the embargo because she is a member of the CENTO alliance, and in any case stands only on the fringes of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

## Boy killed in pipe at swimming pool

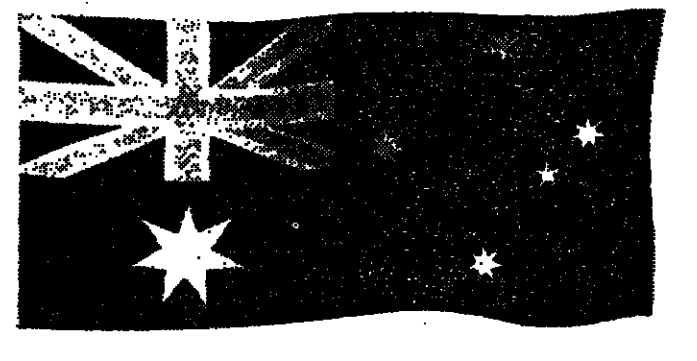
Workmen last night dug through the 4ft. concrete base of a swimming pool in an attempt to recover the body of a boy aged 11 who drowned when he was sucked into a filtration pipe.

They expected to have to dig up almost all of the sea-water pool at Torquay. The boy was sucked into the pipe at 8 p.m. on Tuesday evening.

John Moran, an orphan from the St Vincent's Children's Home, Torquay, had gone to the Marine Spa baths at Torquay with a party of boys from the home. The pipe is believed to be eight inches wide.

Torquay fire brigade emptied the 100,000 gallons of water in the pool while divers from the Torbay Sub-Aqua club located the body in the pipe. They were unable to see the boy's feet, but were unable to attach a rope to them.

John, who attended Abbey Road Roman Catholic School, had lived at the children's home since he was four.



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## Thalidomide boy given place at Repton

By our Correspondent

Fees will be paid by Luton Corporation. Geoffrey was placed in their care because his parents, a soldier and his wife with several other children, were unable to look after him.

Mr David Owens, headmaster of the special school, said yesterday: "Our bright children usually go to grammar schools for the handicapped. But Geoffrey is exceptionally bright and would benefit by going to public school."

"The problem was how to find him a place as no public school has ever taken a thalidomide child."



Geoffrey

A THALIDOMIDE boy with no legs has won a place at Foremark Hall, the preparatory school for Repton.

Geoffrey, aged 10, who wants to be a doctor, has been in council care since he was born. He gets about on artificial legs and in a wheelchair.

But because he was so bright—10, 12½ children's officers and staff as his special school in Harpenden, Hertfordshire, decided he warranted a good education. He was offered the place at Foremark Hall following the intervention of Lady Hoare, founder of the Trust for thalidomide children.

Mr David Owens, headmaster of the special school, said yesterday: "Our bright children usually go to grammar schools for the handicapped. But Geoffrey is exceptionally bright and would benefit by going to public school."

"The problem was how to find him a place as no public school has ever taken a thalidomide child."

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(Devon Cornwall Channel  
(Islands)



## Bonn facing diplomatic cross-fire

From NORMAN CROSSLAND: Bonn, July 14

No matter how it tries, the West German Government cannot phrase its attitude towards the Middle East situation in such a way as to satisfy everybody.

During his recent visit to Israel, the Federal Foreign Minister, Herr Scheel, had leaned towards the French pro-Arab line. But as a result of what Herr Scheel said in Israel, the French got the impression that the Germans were backsliding, and the German Ambassador to Paris was summoned to the Quai d'Orsay to give an explanation.

Bonn has taken the step of publishing the speeches of Herr Scheel and the Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Eban, as well as part of a press conference to show that the Bonn position had remained constant. The Israeli view is that because of the past relationship between Israel and West Germany cannot be a normal one, and that Israel has a right to expect that Bonn supports its cause.

The Israelis were annoyed about Bonn's support of a document recently drawn up by the Foreign Ministers of the EEC on the Middle East issue. Until today — when it appeared in the West German newspaper "Die Welt" — this had not been published, but it was expected that it followed the French line fairly faithfully.

According to "Die Welt", the document contains the following main proposals for solving the problem.

1. The setting up of demilitarised zones between Israel and her neighbours and of buffer zones at prescribed points. United Nations observers would be stationed in the demilitarised zones, and armed UN peacekeeping troops would be based in the buffer zones. The initial period of UN supervision could last as long as five years.
  2. Withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the areas occupied after the last conflict.
  3. The EEC supports the plan to make the city of Jerusalem within the walls and the holy places administratively international.
  4. Measures should be taken to solve the refugee problem. The refugees should be given the choice between a grant of repatriation or settlement in other countries. A commission should be appointed to guarantee the circumstances of the refugees' return to Israel.
- The Bonn Foreign Ministry, without confirming the existence of this document, said that during his visit to Israel Herr Scheel had abided by the policy arrived at in consultation among the Six.
- West German policy is partly dictated by a desire to get on better terms with the Arabs. Most Arab States broke off relations with Bonn when Israel in 1948. Certainly, Herr Scheel managed to conduct his Israeli trip in a manner which could hardly further alienate Arab opinion.

## Jordan evicts guerrillas

Amman, July 14

Jordanian army units have dislodged Palestinian guerrillas from populated areas in north Jordan after they refused to leave voluntarily, a Government spokesman said here.

He denied Palestinian charges that the army was trying to liquidate the guerrillas in Jordan and accused them of trying to destroy the country's economy by terrorising local farmers. The spokesman said the commandos were dislodged from their positions yesterday.

Reports from Jerash, 25 miles north of here, point to a less tidy situation than is implied in the official release. The dispatches indicate that hundreds of villagers were forced to leave their homes in face of artillery bombardment directed at guerrilla bases.

The barrage reached the point of "application fire," which an army officer said was an area bombardment without specific targets. The 3,000 guerrillas who form the remnants of Palestinian resistance in Jordan are encamped in hill bases near Jerash and Gaza refugee camp.

The spokesman said that for the past month commandos in the Jerash area, had been firing on farmers "as part of a sinister plan to destroy the national economy," the spokesman said the Jordanian Government could not stand idly by as farmers were being prevented from harvesting their crops. Villages had been fired on with rockets, mortars and machine guns, he said.

In Cairo Egypt expressed deep concern over the renewed fighting and has asked King Hussein to postpone a proposed visit.

The Jordanian king had been expected to visit Egypt on July 23, the nineteenth anniversary of the Egyptian revolution, although no official announcement had been made in Amman or Cairo.

A Government spokesman said Egypt had hoped Jordan would respond to the Egyptian-Saudi Arabian mission to mediate between the two sides. "Unfortunately, the Jordanian Government has taken a position which worsens tension," — Reuters and UPI.

## Vatican to Eban

Vatican City, July 14

The Vatican spokesman, writing in a personal capacity, today rebuked the Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Abba Eban, for criticising the Vatican's attitude towards the preservation of the Holy Places in Jerusalem.

Writing in the Vatican weekly magazine "L'Osservatore della Domenica," Professor Federico Alessandrini said Israel's leaders had "a preconceived hostility towards Israel and her cause."

He was commenting on statements by Mr Eban in an interview published in the influential Milan newspaper "Il Corriere della Sera" on July 3.

In the interview, the Israeli Foreign Minister attacked Vatican statements alleging that the Holy Places were being given a Jewish character, and alleged that it was not until 1967 that the Vatican protested against the profanation and destruction

of Jewish shrines in Jerusalem, which, he said, had been going on for 20 years.

Professor Alessandrini replied today: "Everyone knows that, from the far-off days which saw the start of a drama which is still continuing, the Holy See insistently made its voice heard in defence of all the monuments of the three great monotheistic religions which are found in Jerusalem."

Professor Alessandrini, who is also Deputy Editor of the Vatican newspaper "L'Osservatore Romano," reiterated past charges that the construction of buildings like "concrete beehives" in Jerusalem risked altering the character of the Holy Places.

He said that "L'Osservatore Romano's" March 22 criticism of building plans and of Israeli expropriations of Arab properties in Jerusalem had been aimed at characterising the newspaper with the widespread scorn provoked by these developments. — Reuters.

## Fear of ruin in environment

From our Correspondent: Geneva, July 14

Mr Maurice Strong, secretary-general of the United Nations conference on human environment, said today that within 10 years some cities in developing nations would be uninhabitable. "Environmental disasters will occur in developing countries through human waste and subsequent disease."

He added: "These countries would prefer chimneys belching black smoke air because that means jobs for their people, jobs that are more important than polluted air. It should be understandable that when faced with this kind of choice they would choose jobs and growth just as we did and still largely do."

Mr Strong, a Canadian, seems to have grasped the need for a "global" environmental strategy and is energetically

pursuing it. He is giving "utmost priority" to exciting the interest of developing countries. His group has received reports from 60 Governments to prepare working papers for a conference in Stockholm in June.

"Over half came from developing countries, and all put water needs at the top of the list, especially for their expanding urban areas. It is not only the quantity but the quality that matters. In such places water is the greatest constraint in the next decade. Then the serious food problem will come."

Four seminars are to be held on the problem, in Bangkok, Addis Ababa, Mexico City and Beirut to prepare the conference in Stockholm. There will also be a meeting of scientists in Canberra.

## More Mafia men held

Palermo, July 14

After raids in Rome, Milan, Naples, and Palermo, 31 people were arrested yesterday and today during police operations. These detained, said to be of "secondary importance," were accused of "criminal conspiracy."

A father and son were among three held in Rome. Nine were arrested in Milan, including another father and son. Those detained on the mainland were put on trains for Palermo under heavy guard.

The operation which came one day after a Government report suggesting police and courts were lax in dealing with the Mafia, was coordinated from Palermo. Police said some wanted men were still being sought, but called the raids a success.

They added that the arrests followed the disappearance of a businessman last Saturday in Palermo. Many reputed gang leaders were rounded up weeks ago and banished to two small islands in the Mediterranean because they were considered dangerous to society.

Since the chief prosecutor of Palermo and his driver were killed on May 5, 44 people suspected of being connected with the Mafia have been exiled. — UPI and Reuters.

## Kidnapped

The president of the Jordanian students' society at the American University of Beirut, Abdel Karim Al-Kabari, was kidnapped yesterday by unknown gunmen, police sources said.

Al-Kabari, a relative of the Jordanian Finance Minister, Ahmad Al-Lawzi, was seized near his house.

## A five-year plan to 'restructure' Malaysia

From ALAN BENNETT: Kuala Lumpur, July 14

The foreign press, particularly the British, is still disturbed here for what is regarded in official quarters as sanctimonious and even proprietorial attitudes in its reporting of Malaysian affairs.

This was explained by a source close to Government quarters who claimed that there had been insufficient attempts to place Malaysia's "immigrant" problem in realistic perspective by comparison with the United States and other countries.

If even Britain was experiencing difficulty in assimilating a tiny coloured immigrant population, Malaysia, with its huge racial minorities, including approximately 37 per cent Chinese, was having remarkable success in weaving various racial strands in a common nation and culture. In spite of occasional friction caused by religious and linguistic differences, and the threat of Communist subversion, the peoples of Malaysia had achieved a singularly happy balance of interests.

## Optimism

This new type of aggressive confidence is believed necessary to carry through the Second Malaysia Plan which is now being put before the Malaysian Parliament. It is believed on most sides to be better founded than the vaguely benevolent optimism and goodwill which characterised the previous Government of Tunku Abdul Rahman.

The Prime Minister, Tun Razak, has leaned heavily on the planners and economists in devising the new plan, which, beginning almost immediately, is to be the blueprint for development for the next five years. Experts agree that realistic socio-economic thinking underlies the Plan: agricultural and land development, particularly in Pahang, is

designed to stem the flow of population from the rural areas to the towns, and to raise the standard of living of the Malays in the countryside.

The Government also intends to increase the participation by Malays in business and industry. Since overt discussion of racial issues is frowned upon, the phrase devised to describe this feature of the plan is "restructuring society."

Participation by Malays in business and commerce, encouraged in the past by government agencies such as RIDA, MARA and now PERNAS (the National Corporation for New Industries) is the key to solving the country's "racial imbalance." Though land development schemes will help to cut Malay unemployment, the division of the country's economy along racial lines will remain fixed until the Malays become involved in all branches of commerce, both private and public.

Intervention by the government in foreign-owned businesses (now two-thirds of the whole) would not be politically unpopular, but is not likely to prove necessary for some time to come. Direct government investment will probably reduce the foreign-owned part to half.

It is no coincidence that details of the Second Malaysia Plan have been released piecemeal and at intervals, at about the same speed as the details of the August 1970 census.

The preliminary census figures show a 40 per cent increase of population in the past 15 years, in particular in the West Malaysian state of Selangor and Pahang. Pahang is the largest agricultural State; its resources can be opened up for easy exploitation and access both to population centres, road, and port facilities.

The case of Selangor is rather different: it includes the capital, Kuala Lumpur, and the increase of the population to approximately 1.6 million is attributed to the influx of

unemployed youths from the Malay countryside. If racial rioting such as that of May 13, 1969, is to be avoided in future, they must either be resettled in the countryside, or provided with jobs in new industries. The Government's policy is aimed at keeping them out of trouble.

Success in implementing the plan is crucial, and this accounts for Tun Razak's insistence that these are going to be Malaysia's crucial years. Shortage of manpower and slowness in the Government machinery are not, he implies, to be used as excuses for not fulfilling the provisions of the Plan.

Nevertheless, many Ministries have difficulty in spending their full budget allocation. To take an extreme example, the Fisheries Department, according to the Minister of Agriculture, Tan Sri Haji Ghazali Jawi, could only spend 22 per cent of the money given to it under the first Malaysia Plan.

## Difficulties

The Prime Minister, Tun Razak, has stressed that difficulties in implementing the plan must be brought to ministerial level or, if necessary, to his own office, for solution.

A total of 14,350 million Malaysian dollars (nearly £2,000 millions) is to be spent over a period of five years.

Faced with the problems of implementing this ambitious programme, while dealing with the enormous tasks of nation-building and suppression of the still, fortunately, only sporadic Communist terrorism, it is understandable that the Government should regard external press criticism as at best, dilatory, at worst, disruptive.

Tun Razak's principal aim at the moment must be to instil a sense of urgency and purpose into what is still a remarkably easy-going and peaceable society.

## Kaunda men abandon march

Lusaka, July 14

About a thousand supporters of President Kaunda abandoned a march on Lusaka University today when they were met by roadblocks and hundreds of students carrying sticks.

The marchers accused the students of insulting the President in a letter criticising his handling of policy towards South Africa. The letter also objected to a ban on demonstrations against the decision by the French Government to permit South Africa to manufacture Mirage jet fighters.

Today's marchers halted within view of students who had gathered, armed with bricks, bottles, and fire extinguishers, on the university roofs. There were cheers and cries of "Kaunda for ever" as Mr Ali Simbule, publicly secretary of the United National Independence Party, declared, "We refuse student government."

The marchers, many of them women with babies strapped to their backs, dispersed after singing a party song and presenting a petition demanding the immediate closure of the university and the dismissal of the 10 students who wrote the letter.

Senior UNIP officials ordered the executive members of the student union to appear before them "to give an account of their recent actions." — UPI and Reuters.

## German jet

The first jet airliner to be built by West Germany made its maiden flight yesterday in sunny weather before crowds of journalists and onlookers at Bremen.

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## HOME NEWS

# V & G documents taken from the DTI in shopping bag

By MALCOLM STUART

Mrs Rose Norgan told the Vehicle and General Tribunal yesterday that she took confidential documents about the company out of the Department of Trade and Industry in her shopping bag. She also admitted taking a copy of a document relating to the Falcon Insurance Company, and possibly one other document.

The witness, aged 49, a widow, who until suspension worked as a photo copier in the DTI, said she had wanted to help her son Dennis, aged 23. He worked with Mr Ian Gordon, an insurance broker at Esher, Surrey.

Mrs Norgan said that in October 1970 her son said to her: "If you ever see anything but I get a look at it." Shortly afterwards the document came up which caught her eye. "I didn't read it."

Mrs Norgan of The Parade, Esher, Surrey, said that the initials and G caught her eye. "We had a car insured with them then we came back to them."

Mrs Norgan said that she took an extra copy of the document which the tribunal judge said was the DTI's insurance company section to his under-secretary.

"I folded it in half and placed it in my shopping bag. When I got home I took it out and gave it to my son in the lounge. I was in a little place in an envelope. My son said 'There's a copy'."

Mrs Norgan said that some time afterwards Dennis told her: "If you see anything else on insurance, see if you can get it."

She understood that the document was to go to Mr Gordon. "Not long after I took the copy of another document and put it in my shopping bag. I gave it to my son."

She remembered this document saying something about the Falcon Insurance Co. (this company was subsequently ordered by the DTI to cease trading further premiums).

Then Mrs Norgan said that she also took copies of the V and G document—a background brief prepared by David Steel, head of the DTI's insurance companies.

## Church takes decisive step towards unity

By BADEN HICKMAN, Churches Correspondent

The Church of England took a decisive step towards unity with the Methodist Church last night when the General Synod gave provisional approval to the controversial union scheme. The decision has been going on for two years.

The scheme to create a new Church of England now goes to the dioceses for their consideration, and a final vote will be taken by the Synod next year. A crucial debate lasted all day. But the vote of 307 to 165, a majority of 68.3 per cent, was not conclusive. It still leaves no clear indication of the final outcome: a majority of 75 per cent will be required next year for acceptance.

The decision was immediately welcomed by the Methodist Conference in a joint statement by the president, the Rev. Dr Kenneth G. Greet, said that great numbers of Methodists would welcome the decision to remit the scheme for consideration at a process level.

The Methodists have voted to unite, but in 1969 the Anglican Convocations of Canterbury and York failed to give the necessary 75 per cent majority support for the scheme on the same grounds.

The lengthy debate added little that was new. Discussion again centred on the issues of the long-term future of the Anglicans. The opponents found it divisive, and the proposed service of reconciliation too vague. The validity of reconciling Methodist ministers would be left in doubt.

Supporters urged an end to uncertainty and frustration, the need for Christians to unite, and claimed the scheme was the best the most able men had been able to produce.

The Dean of Worcester, the Very Rev. E. W. Kemp, who moved provisional approval, said he had been involved in talks since 1956. If the scheme were eventually rejected he was prepared to continue the search for Anglican-Methodist unity. But he could not see the glimmerings of another scheme which was like to come to more support in either church than the one before the Synod.

He doubted if there would be many who would feel bound to leave the Church of England if this first stage of the scheme were not approved. It allowed for people to continue as they were, but with the opportunity for them to come to know Methodists better and to see implications of the scheme more clearly.

The Bishop of Ripon, the Rt. Rev. J. R. Moorhead, one of the leading opponents, said the Synod was in great danger of retarding or preventing the divine purpose. It is decided to approve the scheme because of its effects on other plans for unity. Much more emotion and feeling had been aroused than the scheme merited. It affected about only 5 million people, but the scheme's impact on other and larger schemes for unity should be considered.

The bishop reminded Synod he was a member of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission to which had been entrusted talks for union which, if they succeeded, would see 50 million Anglicans and 500 million Roman Catholics.

A second amendment by the Bishop of Leicester, Dr R. R. Williams, proposed, as an alternative five years of "unrestricted local fellowship" between the two churches. This would deliver the church from a year of great division and controversy, whatever the final outcome.

The Archbishop of Canterbury intervened to oppose and said such unrestricted local fellowship could be achieved only by illegal practices or by the laying of the problems of relations between the churches. Such fellowship could be achieved by the scheme. The fellowship of the Church of England sought was in all directions, and the archbishop did not accept the Bishop of Ripon's forecast that the scheme would harm Anglican relations with the Roman Catholic Church.

The Bishop of Derby, the Rt. Rev. C. W. J. Bowles, moved the third unsuccessful amendment which sought among other things to appoint a further commission to negotiate with representatives of the Methodist Church and any other churches if they desired, to secure organic union.

Mr Alan Hasson, aged 45, former Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Orange Lodge of Scotland, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment last month on charges of fraud and embezzlement involving sums totalling £10,330 while Grand Master, was freed at the Court of Criminal Appeal in Edinburgh yesterday. The conviction was quashed.

Lord Wheatley, who presided at the appeal, said the first ground of appeal was based on the submission that at the trial the presiding judge, Lord Johnston, had withdrawn from the jury the right or possibility of returning a "not proven" verdict.

## Hotel ban lifted

By our own Reporter

The High Court yesterday reversed a decision by the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Walker, to refuse permission for a 200-bedroom hotel to be built in Cambridge.

Mr Walker had rejected the recommendation of his inspector at the local planning inquiry, who approved the application by De Vere Hotels Ltd for a £2 millions development.

The Department said last night it was proposed to make a modification order on the outline planning permission already given, in order to make the hotel smaller. Mr Leslie Jackson, deputy chairman and managing director of the De Vere group, owners of 20 hotels in the South of England, said the company would apply for substantial compensation if modification orders were made.

There was no comment from the Department last night about why the High Court application, which was granted in two minutes, was not opposed.

The hotel is planned for a site on the corner of Huntingdon Road and Mount Pleasant. Plans were approved by the city council and the Royal Fine Arts Commission.

Mr Kershaw said that on the morning of the meeting Mr Gordon telephoned him details of a brief prepared by Mr Steel for the Under Secretary, Mr Christopher Jardine. Mr Kershaw told Mr Jardine this in the course of the meeting.

Mr Kershaw said his accounts department had told him that Mr Gordon was in arrears with the company. After being shown the DTI minute he told the accounts department not to press Mr Gordon for the money overdue.

Mr Kershaw said that he had not engaged in any share transactions from the time he was shown the first document until the date when V and G went into liquidation in March.

"Nor did I initiate any dealings for the family trust I have for my children," The Finsbury Unit Trust—a V and G subsidiary—may have been involved in dealings but that company was not given any instructions by him.

Chief Superintendent Robert Saunders, senior police officer assigned to the tribunal, said he believed that documents handled by the Norans and Mr Gordon referred to the V and G Falcon, and the now defunct Alpha insurance companies. Mr Noran had not received any direct financial reward. He had acted to ingratiate himself with Mr Gordon.

An economist has been engaged by the Federation of Insurance Brokers to advise members on the safety of insurance companies after the collapse of V and G.

## Rents dispute delays air terminal opening

The opening of a new long-distance passenger complex at Heathrow Airport-London was indefinitely postponed yesterday because of a dispute over the rents airlines should pay for the terminal.

Airlines were told by the British Airports Authority that they were banned from using the new area, which was due to open at midnight last night. The airlines, including BOAC, Pan Am and TWA, replied by accusing the Authority of demanding extortionate rents, and claimed the BAA had not sent them the terms and conditions until the end of June.

This was denied by the BAA. Scores of brand new check-in desks at the terminal will be left unoccupied, and a number of sub-contracting firms who should have been working for the airlines have had to be laid off.

The airlines claim the BAA wants to make a large increase in rents for space. BOAC was being asked for £3,000 for each check-in desk. Next year the airline would have over 40 desks, which would mean a bill for checking-in facilities of more than £120,000 a year.

Our Air Correspondent adds: BAA denied yesterday that the airlines had been given only two weeks' notice of the rents. The Authority had been talking with the 30 or so airlines for the past three years, and they

knew in April what they would have to pay for the facilities. The detailed terms of the agreement were not available until the end of June, the Authority said, but most were quite customary and should present no problem.

The Authority feels it is the airlines' refusal to pay that is sudden and unexpected, not the terms it is offering. It bases its case for higher rents on the fact that such items as heating and maintenance, previously paid for separately, are now included in the overall charge, and basic rents have in some cases not been raised for nine or 10 years.

The crux of the dispute, as explained yesterday by the BAA, is whether the airlines should pay for the use of the baggage handling area behind the passenger departure area. The airlines claim this is covered by general landing fees, but the Authority argues that if they are not paid for separately, other airlines not using the Number 3 terminal will in effect be subsidising those that do.

The area became available for departures when the new arrivals building was opened alongside. The plan was to move the airlines into this newly equipped section while the present departures area, which is no longer really adequate at peak periods, was refurbished.

Boxing promoter fined £4,000

William Alexander Griffiths (62), boxing promoter and bookmaker was fined £4,000 at Birmingham Assizes yesterday for defrauding the Inland Revenue. He was ordered to pay not more than £3,000 towards the costs of the prosecution.

Mr Kenneth Mynett, QC, for the Crown, said Griffiths, of the Crown, said Griffiths, of Upper Lichfield Street, Willes, Staffordshire, owed the Revenue about £5,000 made up of £4,000 unpaid tax and £1,000 interest.

## Sex will stay on the cards

The Labour party practice of stamping the sex of members on membership cards has annoyed women members at Bilston, Staffordshire. They are to ask the party to delete the word.

But a spokesman at Transport House said yesterday: "We should remind the ladies of Bilston that the sex of a member was first placed on cards from the time of the Suffragettes, who wanted it. You could say that they were the first promoters of Women's Lib."

Names of several prison officers against whom allegations have been made were also given. They were alleged to have been involved in violence against prisoners.

"We have asked for an independent inquiry and stressed that anything less than this would not remove doubts and suspicion."

The request is being conveyed to the Home Secretary. Prisoners twice demonstrated during the weekend at Walton and on Tuesday prisoners walked out of the workshops and staged a sit-in in the exercise yard for several hours.

## Prison inquiry demand

Three Liverpool Labour MPs went to the Home Office yesterday to ask for an independent inquiry into allegations of violence against six prisoners in Walton Prison, Liverpool.

Mr Eric Heffer, Mr James Dunn, and Mr Robert Parry saw Mr Mark Carlisle, the Under-Secretary of State.

The deputation follows allegations by a discharged prisoner, Mr John Forsythe, of Mansfield Road, Liverpool, to Mr Dunn.

Mr Dunn said yesterday: "We presented evidence that prison officers were alleged to have used violence and named specific prisoners. We indicated that two of them had been visually injured."

"Names of several prison officers against whom allegations have been made were also given. They were alleged to have been involved in violence against prisoners."

"We have asked for an independent inquiry and stressed that anything less than this would not remove doubts and suspicion."

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# What happens to you when you get hot.

As you know, your body has a normal temperature of about 98.6° Fahrenheit.

It keeps it constant by giving off heat (mostly in the form of sweat), which is then absorbed by the cooler air around you.

Unfortunately, this system is not foolproof.

When you are indoors, the heat and moisture you are giving off combine to make the air hot and humid.

And the hotter it gets, the less extra heat it absorbs.

The result is that you start to feel hot.

You get tired because your body is working harder to keep cool.

And irritable because you're uncomfortable.

It's time for another system to take over: air conditioning.

This is how it works:

The hot air is drawn out of the room and cooled.

De-humidified to take out some of the moisture.

And filtered to take out the cigarette smoke and dirt which have accumulated.

Then it's fed back into the room, so it's always fresh.

As a result your body can work normally again, and so can you.

In a recent survey over 95% of commercial users of air conditioning said they were satisfied the investment was worthwhile.

And that by improving conditions it reduced staff turnover and increased trade and productivity.

A lot of air conditioning comes in packaged systems which are easy to instal in existing buildings, and keep prices down.

Now you know what it is, this is what you do next.

Phone or write to Bernard Hough, The Air Conditioning Advisory Bureau, 2 Charing Cross, London. SW1A 2DR. Telephone: 01-839 7182.

He'll arrange for your Electricity Board to give you independent information and advice.

And help you to get a free estimate of the equipment you need and how much it will cost.

WE ARE



AIR CONDITIONED FOR YOUR COMFORT

The electric environment.

## Journalists 'stole' photographs

Two journalists were accused yesterday of stealing photographs from a London flat where a woman was strangled last year. The photographs were taken in a view to writing a picture story about the killing, which had been sold to magazines.

The prosecution, alleged at Wells Street Court, London, that Thomas Bryant (44), of Barling, Essex, and Peter Flett (31), of Carshalton, Surrey, and a picture editor, of Burwood Close, Esher, Surrey, are charged with conspiring with others to break into a flat in Barbara Street, Holloway, London, in September.

Bryant and Hibberd are also charged with entering the flat and stealing six photographs belonging to Miss Patricia Davies, and maliciously causing damage to the door of the flat. All three are charged with dishonestly taking six photographs.

Niven Scott Craig (44), a 2500 surety.

## Ex-Orange chief freed

Mr Alan Hasson, aged 45, former Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Orange Lodge of Scotland, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment last month on charges of fraud and embezzlement involving sums totalling £10,330 while Grand Master, was freed at the Court of Criminal Appeal in Edinburgh yesterday. The conviction was quashed.

Lord Wheatley, who presided at the appeal, said the first ground of appeal was based on the submission that at the trial the presiding judge, Lord Johnston, had withdrawn from the jury the right or possibility of returning a "not proven" verdict.







# Ministers aim to stop 'misuse' of funds

By RICHARD BOURNE, Education Correspondent

The Government is expected to produce proposals this autumn to prevent alleged abuses in the use of public funds by student unions. The move is regarded as more urgent than the possible setting up of a Registrar of Student Unions to approve their constitutions.

Education Ministers have been urged by backbench Conservative MPs to ensure that funds paid direct by local authorities to student unions on behalf of students are

used for approved educational purposes. Critics have complained of discrimination against Conservative societies over student union subsidies, and of "wrongful" use of union funds for the support of strikes, anti-apartheid demonstrations, and other causes.

Local authorities have been complaining about the "blank cheque" aspect of union fees, by which students and institutions are free to fix a sum which local authorities are obliged to pay. They find it irritating that university unions with more ambitious services fix higher fees, which are then used by polytechnic and education college unions as a stick for the local authority sector of higher education.

The Government is unlikely to go as far as its right-wingers would wish, making union membership voluntary and requiring local authorities to pay to join unions rather than to their unions. This would conflict with the policy of according prestige and responsibility to the unions, and would embarrass college unions as a stick for the local authority sector of higher education.

Any attempt at restriction would be difficult to enforce, and would also run the risk of precipitating a revolt with the National Union of Students. It may also be unsatisfactory to grassroots Conservatives, for it would seem impossible to prevent a union from what it wished to do with its bar profits, for example.

The Government is committed to producing new union fee regulations in time for them to become effective by September 1972. The idea of a Registrar, first put forward by the

Government to consider providing a financial remedy on a "without sole regard to the degree of hardship caused to the taxpayer."

But the Chancellor, Mr. Barber, says in the White Paper that "any remedy for departmental error giving rise to arrears of tax must depend on the degree of some degree of hardship."

The Inspector of Taxes will have discretion to meet the exceptional case of a taxpayer with large family responsibilities whose income is just above the normal limits for full or partial remission.

It will also apply to a taxpayer whose income does not represent realisable capital—an annuity for example. But the White Paper rules out the possibility of financial remedy in cases where there has been undue delay in payment of tax. The Chancellor says: "It is not practicable."

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Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, of the United States Supreme Court, having a word with Lord Hailsham at the American Bar Association's annual conference in London yesterday

## 'Morals' defeat for mother

A MOTHER lost her legal battle for custody of her daughter, aged 9, because of a judge's suspicions about her morals. The Appeal Court in London held yesterday that Judge Beech at Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire, County Court was right to order that the child should go back to live with her father.

No evidence showed that her mother had ever had an affair with another man. But Lord Justice Davies said there were obvious suspicions in the case and it would be "highly undesirable if the girl were to be exposed to this sort of thing."

Lord Justice Davies said the parties married in 1959 when the husband was 23 and the wife 18. In February last year the mother left home, taking her daughter with her. The father discovered only this year that they were in London.

The county court judge's decision was based on the girl's story of what happened in London. Lord Justice Davies went on. The child had told her father, a welfare officer, and the County Court judge that in London she had slept in the same room as her mother and another man and had seen "amorous exchanges."

An inquiry agent employed by the father had been unable to find any evidence of adultery by the mother. Lord Justice Davies added that the custody order was only an interim one. In every other case the divorce suit should be heard at the next Manchester Assize in October.

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## Capt. Culver reprimanded and fined \$1,000

By JOHN WINDSOR

Captain Thomas Culver of the US Air Force was yesterday sentenced to be reprimanded and fined \$1,000 (£416) by a court-martial at Lakenheath, Suffolk.

He is the first military judge advocate in American history to have a conviction recorded against him by a court martial.

Captain Culver (32) was found guilty on Tuesday of taking part in an unlawful anti-Vietnam war demonstration and soliciting two other servicemen to take part.

He shrugged after the six-day hearing and asked for a week's holiday. The sentence is under review, and the holiday is being considered.

Captain Culver said afterwards: "In a sense this is a victory. A reprimand is virtually no sentence at all. The air force made a mistake bringing this case: it wasn't worth the time, money, and publicity."

I think the jury realised that we had made an effort to stay within the law, and that my conduct was, not seriously reprehensible.

He faced a maximum sentence of four years' hard labour and dismissal—the penalties for an offence classified as unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

He expects his appeal to reach the court of military appeals within a year, and is prepared to take it to the Federal courts, for a ruling on whether the air force regulation forbidding demonstrations is constitutional. This could take several years.

Civilian police were on duty at 48 Tactical Fighter Wing headquarters, but there was no demonstration by either civilian or military supporters.

PEACE, the anti-war group whose Whit Monday rally led to the charges of unlawful demonstration.

Captain Culver's involvement with Women's Lib was revealed during the trial by the staff judge-advocate at Lakenheath, Major Franklin Flattin. Major Flattin said that Captain Culver, after acting as recorder at a discharge board before which a pregnant nurse appeared, wrote in a Women's Lib publication that he had brought two women observers to the hearings in order to apply "psychological pressure" on the board.

Captain Culver, who is divorced, said afterwards that he had done this to "even up" the sexes present. He has been secretary of the Cambridge-based "Women Are People" movement for a year until April.

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when he had decided that the post was best occupied by a woman.

Women are more oppressed than men, he said. "Girls are healthy high school kids until they join the force and are put down and told to conform, but women feel that they have been lied to and abused since the age of about four. The oppression is greater because it starts earlier."

He added: "My views are not at all unusual, but generally the military prefers that its officers do not take any active political role or join groups not sponsored by the air force."

In court, Captain Culver said that the prosecuting counsel, Captain Franklin Luna, had rescued him in a Vietnam-held part of Saigon three years ago, when he had been forced to hide under a bed for four days.

Captain Luna organised a search party and found him.

Captain Culver said afterwards that in Saigon he shared an office with Captain Luna. Major Flattin and Captain Frank Wesson, defence counsel, were working in the same area.

Major Flattin said in court that Captain Culver's perfor-

mance as a lawyer had declined over the past four to six months and that he no longer felt able to recommend him for promotion.

But Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Noon, director of civil law for the Third Air Force, giving testimonial evidence, said: "He was probably the finest trial lawyer, particularly defence counsel, that we had in the Third Air Force."

Captain Culver was arrested at midnight on the day before he was due to leave the air force. He had intended to return as a civilian defence lawyer working in military camps.

"I am still in the air force," he said. "I don't think they will let me out until my position has been reviewed by headquarters."

PEACE — People Emerging Against Corrupt Establishments—would still be active, but next time Glen presented a petition they would watch out for people with cameras.

Captain Culver's defence was that his activity on Whit Monday was confined to petitioning Congress—a right under the first amendment to the Constitution—and was not a demonstration prohibited by air force Regulation 35-15.

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reason alone, the number of jobs moved out of London annually by clients has been almost halved in the past three years.

In 1964-5, rents for new office space in first-class West End and City positions were of the order of 55s (£27.5) per square foot. Today they were at least three to four times that figure.

Mr. Robert Vignars, chairman of the GLC's strategic planning committee, said later that the bureau misunderstood the GLC proposals and had "done the sums wrong."

We are not concerned about unemployment among office workers in Central London and we are not proposing any increase in employment there," he said. "What we are seeking to do is to provide more office space for the decision-makers and their personal staffs without increasing the total number of employees."

"Outside the central area we do propose a modest increase in office employment to help redevelopment of decaying areas and to provide local opportunities for jobs."

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## Unions 'see law as an enemy'

By DENNIS BARKER

British trade unions had "an inherited sentiment" against the law and no compensating experience of it as a friend and ally, Mr. Robert Carr, the Secretary for Employment, yesterday told American lawyers meeting in London.

On the American experience, Mr. Carr argued that opposition to the Industrial Relations Bill was "based on emotion as much as on reason." There was a long-standing feeling in this country that the law had little place in industrial relations.

"This is partly due," he said, "to the undoubted success of our remarkably unregulated system of industrial relations—at least until recent years. On the union's side it is also a product of our history and of the structure and social division of our society which has created suspicions about lawyers, legal institutions, and the process of law in this field. There is no doubt that in the early days of their struggle to establish themselves in the economic laissez-faire environment of the end of the last century, the unions did not find that the law was their natural ally."

The root cause of the worsening industrial situation in Britain had been a fundamental change in the system of collective bargaining—the switch in emphasis from national to local bargaining. Since the war the bargaining process at local level had become the most important determinant of the wage packet.

"This is not necessarily bad in itself, and can in fact be welcomed," Mr. Carr said. The process of national bargaining from direct responsibilities of managing their own affairs.

Equally, trade unions were often found to be without the resources or the organisational strength to service members engaged in negotiations with companies or on the shop floor. An observable gap often developed which was filled by good lawyers. The law acquired power without properly defined responsibility either within their work place or to their unions."

Lack of regulations and extreme flexibility had probably been an advantage in a majority of industries. "But in the new situation with the bargaining that really matters increasingly taking place at many hundreds and thousands of decentralised points, more formal and more standardised rules and procedures are needed to support machinery for the achievement of reasonable stability and orderliness."

Mr. Carr said he was very conscious of the fact that in the end the problems of human relations in industry could be solved only by constructive voluntary action within industry itself—by managements and unions, with the primary responsibility clearly on management.

"We do not imagine for one moment that the law, by direct action, can work some magic and sudden cheer for the ills from which we suffer. Old habits and attitudes of mind die hard, but we do believe that good laws which are based on judgment of the community about what is fair and reasonable, supported by appropriate and sensitive institutions, can have a powerful cumulative effect in influencing opinion and in moulding the ways in which men and organisations develop their relationship and do their business together."

The theme of reaction to law and to State intervention in labour problems was taken up by Mr. Hodgson. He said he thought that "the curtain is about to rise on a new drama." In American labour law, American society had developed a more questioning attitude and changing values.

"It is more critical of parts that do not function well. And it has noticed defects in our labour laws."

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## Car economic in new towns

By our Planning Correspondent

The car is the most economic form of transport for travelling to work in new towns, according to Dr Peter Stone of the Greater London Council.

Writing in "Official Architecture and Planning," Dr. Stone, who works on investment strategies, discusses the relative value for money of new towns, their shapes, their sizes and their sites. He draws some controversial conclusions which, if accepted, could cast doubt on the philosophy and practices of current projects.

Dr. Stone, in his comments on transport, criticises rail-based systems as too expensive. Even for a new city of 250,000—the size of Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire—it would cost about twice as much as the whole of the road network, which will still be necessary.

Nor does a bus-only road network, which is being built in Runcorn, Cheshire, have much appeal as it adds a great deal to the overall costs of a new town's roads. It does appear that for new towns even larger than those with 250,000

people, the journey to work is more economic by private car than by either bus or rail," Dr. Stone says. "The situation would, of course, be very different in large existing towns."

In another article on investment in new towns, Mr. John Worthington, an architect who teaches at University College, London, points out that planning restrictions on private development in new towns are likely to produce homes that are too costly. He suggests that it may be necessary to provide subsidies to the houses, the individuals, or the land. Unless this happens, standards of layout and construction will have to be lowered.

"We should accept the fact that if we wish to achieve a high degree of cheap new owner-occupied housing without heavy subsidies, we cannot achieve it within the present space standards, layout criteria, and specifications laid down by development corporations and the government," Mr. Worthington says.

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## Surplus of shops foreseen

By JOHN ARDILL, Regional Affairs Correspondent

Nottingham, Leicester, and some other places in the East Midlands may have too much shopping space in their central areas by 1981, according to a study carried out at Leicester University for the East Midlands Economic Planning Council.

The Nottingham district, it says, shows a clear pattern of rapid suburban growth and relatively slow expansion in the city itself.

Leicester also "seems likely to show relatively slow growth in retail trade, and there exists the danger, as with Nottingham, of over-expansion."

In Northamptonshire, the report says, Wellesborough is likely to nearly treble its volume of retail trade because of a very large increase in population.

The rapid expansion of Peterborough, outside the East Midlands region, is likely to affect the retail trade of Bourne, Stamford, and Gundle.

Retail Trade Patterns in the East Midlands by Michael Gibson and Michael Pullen. East Midlands Economic Planning Council, 35p.

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## Sex watch goes on

Mr Frederick Drayton Porter, Chief Constable of Mid-Anglia police, said yesterday his officers would continue to take every necessary measure to trap sexual offenders.

He was replying to a charge that police officers had been spying on homosexuals through peepholes in toilet walls. The charge was made by Mr Bernard Greaves, a student of architecture at Cambridge.

In a letter to the Chief Constable, Mr Greaves said: "I suggest that if you wish to prevent homosexual offences from taking place in public conveniences, rather than trap a minority of those committing the offence, you should consider the posting of a uniformed constable in the appropriate conveniences would be





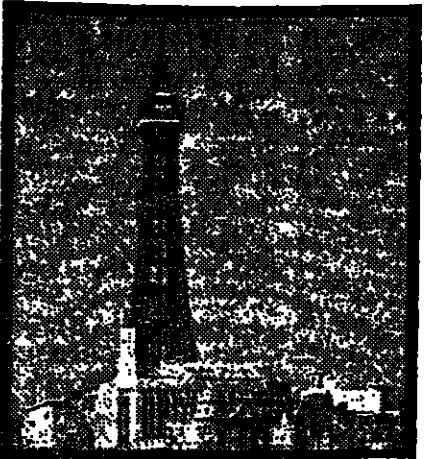






# Doddy and stardust

Robin Thorner on the pilgrimage to Blackpool



HER MOST ARDENT ADMIRERS, fickle in prosperity, have forsaken Blackpool's plastic escapism for packaged escape: they've abandoned Blackpool's Spanish waltzers and flamenco artists for bingo and chips on the Costa Brava. Those who still make the pilgrimage to this Mecca of bad taste are not too poor but too unimaginative to go elsewhere. They're not looking for exotic novelty but reassuring familiarity.

What the people want now, apparently, is cabaret. They want to be able to eat and drink and dance and be entertained, just like you can in the clubs that have been mushrooming in all but the smallest industrial towns of the North. But in Blackpool you do it on a grander scale and with a glossier finish.

And the grandest and the glossiest is the Stardust Garden — the ballroom in the Winter Gardens (and off-season political conference hall) converted by a £150,000 cinema set into a Las Vegas-style night club. From 7.30 to 12.30 it alternates a slick floorshow of up-market variety acts — cabaret singers, unicyclists, jugglers, dancing girls, but no strip — with dancing to Joe Loss and his orchestra. "Nothing repeated!"

It was here that Freddy Brown, the Blackpool-born publicity man for EMI (who, since they bought the Blackpool Tower Company, own this and every other show that was open when I was there, except for the Ice Parade) explained that they were now catering for the evening and short-stay visitors, the people who come to Blackpool for a second holiday before or after their trip abroad. That accounted for them being willing and able to spend the 90p per head admission to the Stardust

Garden. Mr Brown pointed out that this was only 10p more than the best seats for most shows — where you can come out after the first house with two hours to kill before closing time.

He argued that you could sit in the Stardust Garden for five hours and you didn't have to spend a penny. Well, it seems to me that if you find yourself in this sort of ambience, designed to make you feel expensively expansive, sooner or later you're going to order from the constantly passing trolleys of food (staffing and service are excellent and you're never neglected). When you succumb, a small salmon roll costs 42p, a small salad on a plastic airline plate, 62p. Enjoy yourself, you're on your holidays.

And when you're on your holidays what you want is chops dressed up as cutlets: the same fare you're used to at home, but gift-wrapped and sprinkled with sequins. The names that pull them in at Blackpool are our little grey friends from the television screen, blown up to life-size in full colour and three amazing dimensions. Most of them are Lancastrians — Ken Dodd and Jimmy Tarbuck from Liverpool, Jimmy Clitheroe, Dora Bryan, Hylda Baker.

Doddy's "Laughter Spectacular" at the Opera House is just that — the most expensive, the most hilarious, the one with a real live waterfall on the stage at the end of the first half. Dodd himself is Blackpool at its best — it's his ninth season here since 1955 — an aristocrat of true vulgarity, he knows exactly what people want and gives them a little bit more. He does it by taking the same comic old gag that the rest of them use, but teasing out the logic to its zany limit and out the other

side: it's the only act in Blackpool that stretches the imagination or strikes true chords. The tickle stick's still there, but now it's yards long, a great Scarface phallus nodding over the stalls. "Are there any honeymoon couples here?" he asks. "Good morning."

In one way the trade is catching up with Doddy — the dirty jokes are becoming more openly "permissive" and less adolescent snickering. "Knickers," he shouts at one point and the house howls with glee. "It's all right, you can say that now, missus," Jimmy Tarbuck at the ABC, has a nice line in candidly blue jokes, even if they are reassuringly familiar. That one about extending transplant operations: "I hope I don't get Jimmy Clitheroe's" — was used by Ted Rogers at the same theatre in 1968.

But Tarbuck relies more on personality than his scripted material. He's the smart young lad from down the road who's done well out of selling — second-hand cars, insurance, himself — and drinks in the lounge bar but still calls hello to the old women on their doorsteps. As part of his "one of us up there" bit, he's refreshingly honest about phoney show-biz conventions like the carefully rehearsed surprise encore — with little regard for the group of Latin-look waiters who play guizos in his show and have to shout "More!" themselves.

He's as good as Doddy at exploiting late arrivals. When my wife came back from the loo just after he'd started his routine, he repeated it all for her and then asked "Could you hear me out there anyway?" She blushed yes. "I thought so, we could hear you out here." He also has that nice Kenneth McKellar who has a

degree in music and looks as if you could let your daughter go into the jungle with him. McKellar's television shows are some of the most popular programmes ever transmitted.

Which shows how the promoters think. And I won't raise any canards about Big Brother in entertainment, because poor old EMI have already been made to sell their share of London Weekend television. Anyway they're right — people seem to want their favourite television shows — to follow them to the coast. Take two of the non-EMI shows — "The Good Old Days" with Clinton Ford and Duggie Clark at the Central Pier, and Harry H. Corbett and Kathy Kirby at the South Pier.

Then at the Grand Theatre EMI have Hylda Baker from Granada's appalling "Nearest and Dearest." They did a stage version of her television series last year, so this time they've had to set the programme's scriptwriters, Tom Brennard and Roy Bottomley, on writing a new comedy based on the same character. So "Not On Your Nelly" is written to the same formula of stock Lancashire caricature (Nelly runs a black pudding stall instead of working in a pickle factory) and innuendo that is lamed by having only one entendre.

May be it got better after the interval. I left wondering whether the Bishop of Blackburn, who denounced "Hair" as unsuitable for family audiences, preferred totally unambiguous lines about an old man looking for his pills in his nightgown. Still, there's always the Tower Circus, with Charlie Calvert exactly as I remember him 20 years ago (he's in his thirty-first season) and the ring still dropping magically away to flood with water for the cascades at the end.

Reassuring familiarity, not exotic novelty. A family show, in every sense. The only startling innovation comes as a climax to a Derby Day dance routine in the Ken Dodd show. The backdrop goes up to reveal two live horses at full gallop, getting nowhere because they're on rollers.

But the "horses" treadmills by Hall Stage Equipment, Ltd. at least provide an image — Blackpool is not an escape, but a change of treadmill.

The bitterest irony is that "Hair" — the one show that might have suggested that there could be more to life than putting two precious pounds a week into a jar on the mantelpiece to spend two weeks being fleeced on a different treadmill — has become part of the treadmill. Admittedly it's the only tatty show in town admittedly it's the only show where they can manage just as well without mikes because you can't hear the sound system anyway; admittedly they take off their clothes and stand in the half-light. ("What are you doing here?" Tarbuck asks. "Let's get over there.") But when you talk to the company you find them torn between believing in what "Hair" has to say and realising that Mr Grade and Mr Delfont wouldn't have put it on in Blackpool if there was any danger of it being taken seriously.

Only one of them saw any inconsistency in treating the show as just a show, had any qualms about moving on into the sterility of straight show business, or worried about the evaporation of its idealism. Of course "Hair" is stale and tatty and phoney: it's still the only refreshing experience in Blackpool apart from the air. They're having a wonderful time, but I wish it was "Hair."

## ROUNDHOUSE

Philip Hope-Wallace

## Andronicus

LEAVE YOUR ROSES awhile. Here at the Roundhouse is matter for a hot July night: Titus Andronicus, the bard's own horror comic. "Why are the roses so pale?" sings Tchaikovsky. "Have I not reason think you to look pale?" asks that rose of all the Goths, Tamora—Oh, yes it is by Shakespeare all right: the line might belong to Juliet—same date, incidentally. Tamora gets her come-uppance near the end, feasting with relish on a pasty which fades (the relief) when she learns it is compounded of her offspring and blood relations.

What a lot of blood. "Look. No hands!" might be the refrain of part one. Lavinia has her hands lopped and her tongue ripped out within a matter of five minutes. Titus ten minutes later has lopped his left arm, a fearsome moment. I date my gradual loss of hair from the first time I saw Oliver, directed by Peter Brook, enact this episode: I haven't got it out of my head, let's say "system," even now, and it upset me as he hacked off. "Disgusting, all blood and buttocks," said a stout lady in the interval. "Let's go and get an ice" (the aces are famous hereabouts). I hadn't the heart to suggest a meat pasty. But I knew what she would suffer—later on.

P. Brook and Lord Larry forced us to sup on horrors and acknowledge poetry. I didn't so much admire Keith Hack's direction in lurid lights on a football stadium terrace, which certainly brings out the buttocks aspect. There are a few odd scansions from the black demon Aaron (Barry Dennen) but the Tamora (Ann Mitchell) knew the music and Trevor Peacock examining which hand to lop said, finely, "such withered herbs as these are meat for plucking." It makes a nice change from "Oh! Calcutta!" but what is all this about the pornography of violence?

## SUSSEX UNIVERSITY

Edward Greenfield

## Britten songs

BENJAMIN BRITTEN wrote his Song Cycle "Who are These Children?" over a year ago—a collection of lyrics, rhymes and riddles—to words by the Scot poet William Soutar—but it was only in May this year that it received its first performance from Peter Pears with Britten accompanying. That was at one of the National Gallery of Scotland concerts, whose founder, Pertia Liebenthal, the cycle commemorates. Tuesday's first English performance, with an extra song making up the round dozen, was given not at a regular concert but in the lunch hour at Sussex University—Peter Pears's thank you for the honorary doctorate he had just received.

It is a superb cycle, with a freshness and simplicity that harks back not so much to Britten's children's music as to his Michelangelo and Hardy cycles, where apparently naïve ideas are presented with disarming freshness, seemingly gauche but in fact highly original. The drone accompaniments to the simpler songs—all ingeniously different—no doubt found their basic inspiration in the drone of the bagpipe, but the transformation is complete, to give

## review



an elusive quality, not quite art song, not quite nursery rhyme.

Among the more complex songs, "Slaughter," with brutal rushing octaves in the accompaniment, brings echoes of Britten's Donne settings, while the title song "Who are These Children?" gives a pointer to Britten's inner meaning, when at the words "Within a world at war" there is an echo of the War Requiem. The penultimate song "The Children" is the most beautiful and tender of all. It intensifies the dedication to innocence in a better holiday before or after their trip abroad. The final song, "The Auld Aik" (oak) very simple indeed, is in some ways the most remarkable of all, with its unadorned triads producing an amazingly original sound in a way that only Schubert could have matched. A beautiful cycle that could well become even more popular than Britten's earlier works in this form.

## FESTIVAL HALL

Hugo Cole

## New Philharmonia

IN TUESDAY'S Mozart concert at BFH, the reduced New Philharmonia Orchestra had retreated into the centre of the platform, the timpanist companionably placed alongside woodwind and horns. With the elimination of those few extra yards between outermost players, the orchestra became, for the evening, a real chamber music group, yet without losing their characteristic warmth and weight. Significantly, Hans Schmidt-Isserstedt was in charge, the conductor of the Norddeutscher Rundfunk since 1945, and as you would expect of an experienced radio conductor, a master at balancing his forces. In the cheerful B Flat Symphony, K 318, sounds were perfectly proportioned to each other, horns always blending tactfully with upper strings in the slow movement, woodwinds succeeding strings with just the right degree of emphasis in the imitative passages in the same movement.

In the big E Flat Symphony, the way in which parts balanced was particularly delightful, accompaniment figures always a joy to listen to, as when the second clarinet handed over its triplet figure to second violins in

the trio. Gareth Morris played the solo in the flute parts most expressively, yet was never obtrusive at other times. Denis Blyth's singing chamber music fortes in the timpani parts throughout were apt, and the brass as a group asserted themselves just once—in the last six bars of the whole work.

Maureen Jones's version of the C Major Piano Concerto, K 467, matched this unaggressive orchestral playing very well. Like Schmidt-Isserstedt, she takes her Mozart calmly and thoughtfully, inviting rather than compelling our attention. Apart from a curious misunderstanding at the end of the first movement cadenza, accord between conductor and soloist was complete. Schmidt-Isserstedt was at his best in the E Flat Symphony, beautifully paced, strong and unhurried yet with momentum never lost for a bar. The Serenade Notturna for Two Orchestras was perhaps taken too seriously. The finale is surely a show-off piece for the strings: at this leisurely speed it lost what William Mann aptly describes as its sparrow-like character. Apart from this, the NPO gave us the most natural and understanding Mozart performances that I have heard at the Festival Hall for a long time.

## TELEVISION

Nancy Banks-Smith

## Cricket exile

BASIL D'OLIVEIRA, the first in ATV's "A Kind of Exile" series, was a very nice-and-easy summery thing indeed. If I seem to overemphasise the seasonal side of television, it's because it is in direct competition with the sun which makes faces at the sky, outside the window. Television is never rained off but it can easily be shone off.

It used the simple but engaging idea of setting cricket strokes to music. There was a roundabout feel about these sequences. The cricket pitch with shrieking round the periphery, and activity in the middle, and the sky tilting dizzily and music to match. I have never cared about cricket since I was drummed out of the second eleven for being found asleep, crowned with daisies. There was a shot in this programme of an ecstatic cricket crowd with just one girl, politely fielding an enormous yawn with the palm of her hand. But there were some sequences that breathed such grace and joy that I could almost see the point of the game.

The exceptionally reticent D'Oliveira speaks more fluently and with more feeling about his home and intentions than I have heard him do before. He "would like not to fight the situation, but to stand as an example. To make people think. But think what? Apparently that any Cape Coloured can grow up to be a white man at his own game. And I wasn't thinking of cricket. D'Oliveira has become, for instance, as Cowdrey said, more dignified than the norm. He is closer to the blueprint of an Englishman than any I ever met: the affectionate nickname, the irreproachable family life, the team spirit, the ability to take jokes against himself. Only in his cricket does he show his teeth. "I've got something precious that is mine. If they want it they have to get it off me."

"Collector's World," the start of a new series on BBC-2, felt stiff and sticky. Worried, like one of those programmes shown in the afternoon for the benefit of TV engineers or night workers or house breakers or budgeters. One would expect the programme intended to interest collectors to be at least enthused.

Some of these notices appeared in later editions yesterday.



CINEMA CENTER FILMS spent something like eight million dollars on getting the verisimilitude of Le Mans (Odeon) right. Absolutely right. And what a glossy package it makes. It seems churlish to have doubts about the contents; and yet superfluous on the part of the makers to have credited a script writer.

For this is a movie that functions on long slow looks, significant pauses, expressive impassivity, and enough decibels of car noise to make up for the shortage on dialogue. No, but seriously, though it does not do any positive harm to watch Elga Andersen do one slow burn after another, not everyone is so rewarding in their eye-ball-to-lens confrontations with their Maker.

These reservations apart, "Le Mans" is an achievement. The normal excesses of sports films have been pared away: like the film about skiing, "Downhill Racer," "Le Mans" avoids melodrama and goes for the feel of the thing, the mechanics in the pits, the exchange of tips as one driver takes over from another, the quick meals scooped up in the self-service restaurant, the spectators camping out the look of a cavalcade of cars hurtling into a bend, the minute organisation whereby cars are waved in and out of the pits without causing accidents.

In these broad areas and in establishing a way cameraderie between the drivers, the film is a great success: in the interstices a few unlooked for crumbs have been caught. The count-down to the start of the race with the crowd noise shut out and only the amplified sound of a heartbeat does not work as well as when it was first used, in Ichikawa's film of the Tokyo Olympics (only then it was the nervous breathing of sprinters). All eccentricities of character are ironed out, so that you are left with a group of men who do what they must because they must, which, for all that the hero is Steve McQueen, isn't very different from the Audie Murphy cliché or the Kenneth More cliché.

A pity really that this could not have been avoided, because in essentials the driver's approach works beautifully. There is a sub-theme about a widow (the aforementioned watchable Elga Andersen) at Le Mans to exorcise the spell of the crash the previous year that killed her husband

## Mechanics illustrated

New films reviewed

by Michael McNay

and in which Michael Delaney (McQueen) was also involved; but the main struggle is mechanical, between Porsche and Ferrari: the issue is decided by crashes, engine failure and tyre failure and the nailbiting excitement is between cars racing for second and third place. After the race, the winning co-drivers are feted with garlands and champagne, and the real gladiators are neglected in the wash of the crowd, eyeing each other, wordlessly and cheerfully signalling "up you."

Cold Turkey (London Pavilion) starts as a pleasantly detailed comedy of modern American manners and ends as a wild tour de force. On the way it loses quality but provides plenty of belly laughs. It starts with a smooth Madison Avenue operator persuading a tobacco manufacturer to offer 25 million dollars to the first town in which every inhabitant gives up smoking for a specified period: the idea is that no town will rise to the challenge, but the tobacco manufacturer will offload any odium he bears and maybe even become known as a great benefactor.

In a superb flight of hyperbole, the PR man tells the manufacturer that he and Alf (Alf Nobel) have a lot in common: 13 trillion cigarettes and the manufacture of armaments qualify both to become saviours of mankind: and in the case of the tobacco baron, at least his plan miscarries because the local minister, the Rev. Clarence Brooks (Dick Van Dyke) whips the town into an all-American evangelical fervour.

The (diluted) word of God, the

word of "Time" magazine, the word of John Birch: all that middle America holds most dear takes a pretty severe mauling. Dick Van Dyke is uncharacteristically exact as the self-righteous minister who never doubts himself (or rather, himself, since he clearly annexes the benefit of the capital letter). And Tom Poston plays the local alcoholic who leaves town rather than give up smoking, thus depriving the movie too early of its funniest comic cameo. Still, it survives (with screenplay and direction by Norman Lear).

July 13. By Clapton Omnibus today to Leicester Square, where a preview of a most curiously wrought screenplay by Master Robert Wynne-Simmons and directed by Master Piers Haggard entitled Blood on Satan's Claw (New Victoria). My lord does bespeak himself that in this year of grace, 1670, England and divers other quaint superstitions are long gone, yet new ones spent in my breeches for gazing on the full-frontal of Mistress Linda Hayden, as comely a wench as ever took the devil's service.

No such luck in The Beast in the Cellar, which shares the double bill and which has the sad sight of Flora Robson wasting her talents in a film which will probably finish up in somebody's collection of the greatest kitsch of all time.

The Adventures of Prince Achmet is the 65-minute animated film by Lotte Reininger about the Prince winning the hand of a princess from foreign parts and holding fast to her through all sorts of strange dangers. It was made in 1923-24, and all prints but one were destroyed during the Second World War. It is an exquisite fantasy, too sweet for modern tastes, perhaps, but in its control of line and edgy and soft washes of grey anticipating a lot of the so-called postimpressionist abstraction of American art of the sixties.

It shares the bill at the ICA Children's Cinema on Saturdays with Ken Russell's second film, Amelia, and Angel (made in 1958), a half-hour story about a small girl in London who looks for a pair of angel wings that she needs for a school of dancing stage performance because her brother has snatched the ones she had. It's "The Red Balloon" plus saccharine, fairly imaginative, faintly sinister, overly sentimental: Russell's predilections in miniature.

CLAUDE RICH  
OLGA GEORGES-PIOT  
A FILM BY  
ALAIN RESNAIS

JE T'AIME  
JE T'AIME

Screenplay by  
JACQUES STERNBERG  
DISTRIBUTED BY SONY CENTURY FOX

NOW SHOWING  
PARIS SULLIVAN  
Dreys. 2.45, 4.45, 6.45, 8.45  
Prog. 2.45, 4.45, 6.45, 8.45  
Sons. 4.45, 6.45 and 8.45

## HISTORIES UNFOLDING Judy Marie on John Hoyland's new one-man show.

THIS IS THE FIRST one-man exhibition of John Hoyland's to be hung entirely in the recent extension to Waddington's, which is spacious enough to allow one to get well back from the pictures to look at them. Before, one was bossed around by a constricted and awkwardly shaped area that made sure you stayed pushed up to the picture surfaces and didn't stray.

While this proximity encouraged a strong emotional and physical response, it militated against a cooler, more detached reading of the works. This bias seemed right for the paintings of that time—robust, expansive canvases in strong primaries, with a well-marked vertical stretching across each picture at roughly eye-level. But the paintings, these pictures shimmer rather than worked as well in the old situation as they do here.

First impressions are that one is looking at the dynamited remnants from Hoyland's last show of a year ago. A second look shows that the basic elements of those pictures have survived, but that their individual characters, their relationships with each other and with the ground they sit on, are drastically changed. Gone are those glowing slabs of colour that filled the lower half of the canvas, firmly anchored to its edges and emphasising the essential flatness and stability of the picture plane.

In their place are small tentative block forms (that sometimes look like holes) hovering against waves of colour that swell out to boundaries far less determinate. Gone are the jolting contrasts between complementaries, and the use of dramatic tonal changes. These pictures shimmer rather than smoulder, and Hoyland's close-toned use of scented colour like peach, tan-

gerine, lavender, rose, pistachio and cinnamon sets up strange resonances, their sophistication worlds removed from the hard-hitting colour of the earlier work.

The paintings no longer depict a single incident or situation and their textures now have a strong residual feel about them—slits, marks, dragings, erosions, tide lines—indicating layers of time, and histories still unfolding.

Hoylands submits his work to this kind of rough shake-up quite regularly. No sooner does he seem comfortably settled with a format that would keep many other artists happy for years than he does some kind of violence to it, picks up what he needs from the wreckage, and embarks on a new series. What Hoyland has discarded this time is the use of the frame as an active protagonist, dissolving it until the surface area itself becomes

a comparatively neutral receptacle.

This change seems to be symptomatic of a more general mood. Many artists who have, until recently, made firm constructed, static pictures, using grids or close relatives of the as a structural basis, have now broken things down into more open-ended complex states. Examples are the 15 London shows of John Walker, Lar Pouns and Jules Olitski. But however different in feeling this exhibition is, it is essentially a development of those qualities and ideas that show up so strongly in his Whitechapel show of 1967.

Hoyland is still out to create "minimal" rather than "minimal" picture to enrich and complicate rather than condense and simplify. And in the process he is still producing some of the most substantial, adventurous and exciting paintings around.



# WOMAN'S GUARDIAN

Civil liberties      In pursuit of happiness      About the family

## Heart for art's sake

by Catherine Storr

SEVERAL YEARS AGO a book appeared in which the lives of some of the great figures of the Victorian age were considered in terms of their art as it related to their achievements. The writer pointed out that the only way in which it was possible to escape from the smothering restraints of Victorian family life—for men especially—was to be ill. Elizabeth Barrett Browning was one of the famous invalids quoted in this book, and Darwin was another; and it was argued that without the physical malaise of the former and the mental malady of the latter, they would never have had the solitude which was necessary for the flowering of their respective talents—genius—fewer we like to call it.

Perhaps suffering—because, though it is probable that the illnesses of these particular figures were more psychic than somatic in origin, nevertheless the suffering was real—was a high price to pay for the opportunity to benefit from inspiration. It is not the highest. For some creative artists physical solitude is enough—and difficult to get at that. Others, less fortunate, this isolation from others has to be ended from the body to the spirit; they need the sort of isolation which reached only by withdrawal from the relationship which seems to demand a total commitment. Consciously or not they are wary of the hands which must be made by their human being in close contact with them; sometimes they find themselves involved before they have realised what this will do to their lives, and when this happens something is destroyed, either the relationship or the creativity.

There are thousands of examples; Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote poetry before marriage to Elizabeth, and after death, but for the period of their marriage his time was spent, as he himself bitterly remarked, in correcting the punctuation of Aurora Leigh; he did not write a word dictated by his genius. And Scott Fitzgerald could not write a word in his life; the relationship may have provided fuel, but it suffered at the same time. It seems that for some creative artists, it is impossible to combine the work dictated by the tutelary genius with the human relationships.

If they are offered the sort of ship or marriage which most of us gratefully compound for, the relationship which includes common sense and affection as well as the gift of physical passion, they hold it as a precious commodity. They recognise that if their life is to have full play, they must be prepared to follow, wherever they are summoned; they need a sort of isolation and independence which is compatible with the closest of ties. They may, if they are not oppressed before they are aware, have to choose their path, and it is a terrible choice.

## Confused lives

We have seen, in the lives of many of our writers, poets, artists, and scientists, the confusion and misery which this dilemma can produce. This is a book which has appeared by an unusually articulate woman who found herself faced with precisely this problem, but recognised it only when the ice she had made unconsciously put her in a position which she found unbearable. Sarah Davys—the pseudonym of a writer who cannot yet get to let her real identity be known as told in *A Time and a Time*—has written a book which is a journey into her early twenties, of love, succession of affairs, some heterosexual, some homosexual, left her unsatisfied. So did her profession, in spite of half unwilling success in it. Restless, experimental, gifted, and demanding, she realised, after abortive trials in different directions, that the path of creative talent should pursue must be that of writing, and that satisfaction in love must be with another man. At almost the same moment she wrote the first book which partly satisfied her critical spirit, and discovered that she was at last not only loved but was loved in return. In 1956 one of the most blessed years of her life: the year in which I was actively productive as I have never been before or since, and the year in which I embarked on my incomparably happy love affair with Elizabeth.

Incomparably happy? Is it how she remembers this affair; and indeed, as it came to an end, after five years, Sarah Davys felt that she had everything that made life worth living, carefully planned her suicide—but for the unprecedented assurance of the Post Office's having done an unscheduled late collection in the box in which she had posted farewell letter—would have succeeded. She was brought back to life, miserably and reluctantly, determined to make another, this time successful, attempt as soon as she could. One might ask: Why has she? How has it come about that four years after she abandoned all hope, she wrote this book and has started writing again?

Think she gives us the answer herself. Looking back through the diaries kept throughout the affair with Elizabeth, she has been astonished to discover that even when she was in despair, she was not content. "What diaries reveal is not the defect in the relationship itself but an inner sense of unhappiness in me... and a total inner refusal on my part to admit myself even to this love that had searched for and found." A further entry reads: "I am frightened by my detachment. I wonder if I shall be able to stand living at close quarters with someone."

This detachment, which drove Elizabeth to break up the affair and which is therefore indirectly responsible for Miss Davys's curiously death-like, also been her salvation for it has enabled her to review from a distance a series of events of a year which brought her to suffering and complete despair. She looks back now with feeling and a ironic humour which must in itself be healing, and concludes, "I am changed, renewed, reborn, I am happy here." Perhaps this may seem a muted statement to carry much weight, but coming as it does from someone who so very nearly was not able to write it, I found it important and moving.



Picture of Tony Smythe, by Frank Martin

'Every town should have its NCCL office, every person should be his own walking NCCL,' writes AURIOL STEVENS, investigating our freedom fighters

## Putting the brake on Big Brother

"THE NCCL announced that they were launching immediately a campaign..." On controversial issues from the Little Red School Book to gipsies, from data banks to drugs, the quote from the National Council for Civil Liberties has become an accepted part of the shorthand of public debate. One of the landmarks by which we chart our attitudes in areas of ignorance.

Its usefulness as a landmark depends on what it is: ombudsman, maverick, underground revolutionary cell, glossy PR operation or just a bunch of cranks. It is none of these. It defies exact definition. It is a small political pressure group whose members come from all parties. It is not a charity but undertakes a considerable amount of casework.

It operates for "us" in all the interlocking circles of conflict with "them." The key to it lies perhaps in the personality of its director Tony Smythe, who is one of those rare people with sufficient moral confidence to be independent of any group sanctions. He manages to look like any young executive while wearing green damask trousers.

The Left minority groups have been

the most willing to take the NCCL as their own. "The trouble with them is that they think an organisation like ours should take their word and they get a bit insulted if we probe a little further," says Tony Smythe. And on the other side: "I was having a chat with Colin Jordan the other day. I wish the Right groups would come to us more, but they tend to preface their complaints in the form of a threat."

Since 1969 the staff and income of the NCCL have nearly trebled. They have moved into larger if not more opulent offices. Membership has doubled. They have set up a research organisation, the Cobden Trust, founded the campaign for academic freedom as a separate group, and now have 13 local branches and deal every two or three weeks with a request for new ones to be opened. The Parliamentary group, with a hard core of some two dozen members and the vague allegiance of 150, is somewhat thin in the far Right, nonetheless embraces Ian Mikardo, Dame Joan Vickers, David Steel and Lord Montagu of Beaulieu.

They employ a full time solicitor, Larry Grant, and could provide work for two more and case workers. And now the Gulbenkian Foundation has smiled upon them with a three

year grant for an education officer whose job it will be to carry the gospel into the schoolroom. Which all sounds very impressive—or alarming. Is the lean and hungry watchdog putting on fat and acquiring an empire? Or have we all suddenly realised that our rights are in peril and rushed to their defence? If so is the enlightenment the doing of the NCCL or are they but a symptom? They claim credit at least for increased public sensitivity over privacy for improving the lot of young servicemen and those applying for bail.

The growth is real enough, but it is hardly mass mobilisation. Their income is still under £30,000 a year, less than the cost of putting inside lavatories into an old primary school. Their staff is still only 12. Of their local groups only three or four have any physical existence, and that at most a surgery a few days a week in cooperation with other organisations. Their promotion secretary, Peter Burns, can claim that support is now coming from a broader public. "I don't want to give it a label. If I had to I'd say Guardian readers—the general public, not just minority groups." But there are still only 4,300 people concerned enough to take out membership, to put their money behind their commitment.

This broadening of appeal was somewhat jeopardised by the publication as a basis for discussion of "The Children's Charter," Tony Smythe is unrepentant. "I don't think we should do this sort of thing too often. But the reactions showed us just how much need there is for such a discussion."

If they have not opted wholly for the safe ground, there are signs of more concrete and less strident developments also. Influenced by Tony Smythe's visit to America and the presence for the last year of Larry Grant, the NCCL is becoming more law-minded. The talk for the future is of a legal department and the possibility, alien to the British courts, of bringing test cases, clarification of the law rather than too much new legislation and a raising of "the level of intolerance of injustice." Every town should have its NCCL office, every person should be his own walking NCCL.

"The question we are most often asked by the press is, is it getting worse? That is not the important question. I don't think freedom is best measured on an historical line."

## About the family

by BETTY JERMAN

FLEX-STRAWS are wider than usual drinking straws that can be used for hot or cold even thick liquids and they have an ingenious corrugated section which allows them to be bent to the mouth. Obviously they were originally invented for hospital use but now cheerfully striped, they are attractive to children because instead of having to reach for the opening you bend it down to you. Useful in bed too, or for small children who cannot master the normal straw. The same firm make the ordinary size striped party or picnic straw and put lots of ideas for fun and games with straws on the outside of each packet which could be a boon to any mother in the middle of disorganised party chaos. An extra leaflet of ideas is also available direct from the makers, on receipt of an empty container.

Plain white Flex-Straws for invalids at home, pack of 100, 15p. Candy-striped Flex-Straws pack of 40, 7p. Available from most branches of Boots Manufacturers. Sweetheart Straws Hygienic Industries Limited, College Road, Fishponds, Bristol.

## Langofun

"WE MUST speak only French at breakfast." That is the sort of remark you get when your child starts learning a foreign language. If like me you can barely speak English let alone crank your mind up to anything else at that hour you can still provide plenty of adult encouragement later on. Ginn & Co. have published half a dozen bright little books for French beginners from 9 to 13. They are in the present tense, four are stories about French family life and two about travel in Paris and fishing in Brittany. The author, Mr D. J. Jenkins, teaches French to primary school children. Price 15p each. Ginn & Co., 18 Bedford Row London WC 1.

Langofun is a board game which you play from French to English or English to French. You spin a miniature roulette wheel, announce your "Page Numero," spin again and announce your "Ligne Numero..." and answer a question or provide a translation for whoever holds the Key Booklet. There is one for primary and one for intermediate. You travel to Monte Carlo according to the points you win. Parents can play or referee. I suggest you play. It is fun and a good reviver of knowledge. Obviously it makes a child use French apart from learning new vocabulary. A phonetic pronunciation system is provided which is easily grasped. For children as young as seven. Obtainable from Langofun International, Bank of England Mills, Carruthers Street, Manchester 4, for £2.50 including post and packaging.

## Stork talk

ARGUMENTS about sex education films for children may be claiming headlines but as any parent knows on this subject, as on any other, children do not wait for the "right" time. They throw the unexpected question from toddler age and almost always at an inconvenient moment (in the middle of cooking Sunday lunch) and when you are not ready with an answer. "Let there be Jo" rolls together a number of these sort of conversations, recorded by the author Margaret Wallace, and set down as guiding lines on how to cope. The central section, which discusses children's reactions and parental attitudes, can be removed so the child can read the book when it gets to the reading age. It includes a good reading list for older schoolchildren. "Let There Be Jo" by Margaret E. Wallace, published by Geoffrey Chapman, 18 High Street, Wimbledon, price 30p.



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## Tory support for Europe

On the showing of yesterday's Conservative conference on the Common Market, Mr Heath need not fear much opposition from within his own party. The ranks will stand fairly solidly behind him, with only a few unhappy dissidents. While nothing is a foregone conclusion before the last vote is counted, as forecasters found at last year's election, the Prime Minister must have been comforted yesterday by the support given to him. His speech put an orthodox case in favour of joining. He dwelt mainly on the economic benefits, though with a touch of European idealism as well. He insisted that Britain's sovereignty would remain unimpaired, though Britain would "use" part of its sovereignty to further common aims in Europe. And although many questions were put to the Prime Minister, he was not seriously challenged at any point. Saturday's Labour Party conference in the same hall will be a different story.

That the Prime Minister had an easy passage does not invalidate his case. The odds are that Britain will be better off inside Europe. Nobody can be categorical about it, for every estimate contains a lot of guesses. But he presented a fair case on the main issues—industry, employment, prices, regional policy, overseas aid, the Commonwealth, and other aspects. If he was optimistic about curbing inflation—something on which the Government has not so far lived up to its promises—he at least recognised the universal public anxiety about prices. His reply was that in real buying power, earnings will increase because of the economic growth brought by a bigger market. He argued that this had been the experience of the Six, and, allowing for different circumstances, ought also to be ours. He further argued that we were starting from a stronger economic situation than in 1967, when Labour made its application. On Saturday his Labour critics will say that we are still not strong enough, but it is undeniable that, thanks partly to the Wilson Government, Britain is stronger than it was then. Britain is better placed for entry now than it could have been three or four years ago.

Its prospects on entry will be stronger still if the economy is not so stagnant as today. Britain had better go in on the forward run rather than from a standing start. This was, however, an area that Mr Heath and his Conservative audience avoided yesterday. Except while answering one angry Scotsman on unemployment, Mr Heath did

not mention even the limited expansion of public works announced this week. This programme is discussed below; but, while welcome, it is not enough. Previously the Government has hinted that reflation will come before entry. The outlook will be less worrying when its coming is sure. To talk about a stimulus to investment after entry is all very well, but at least some of the stimulus is needed beforehand.

On the political front, Mr Heath again was cautious. He argued quite rightly, that a flourishing Community is a guarantee against repetition of Europe's old internal quarrels and the miseries that they brought to the whole world. The architects of the Community wanted to make war within Western Europe not just politically improbable but physically impossible, because of the integration of Europe's basic industries. It is true, too, that for future generations a united Europe offers the hope of what Mr Heath called "a new voice in the councils of the world." All that he said on that score ought to be applauded. But he still has to explain how, in the absence of any central authority, Europe can make its voice heard. A Council of Ministers which tries to reconcile conflicting national views is, in the long run, too weak a body. If Europe is to have common political aims, it must grow into something more than a "Europe des patries."

On one related point, Mr Heath repeated a mistake that he has made before. He referred to our Minister on the Council, who will protect British interests, and he then referred in similar terms to the two "British representatives" on the European Commission. It is true that Britain will have the right to nominate two of the fourteen men who head an enlarged Commission. Once nominated, however, they must renounce their national affiliation. The point was well put recently by Dr Linthorst Homan, chief representative in the UK of the European Communities. The Commission, he said, is "an objective body which is free of national influences." It is supposed to provide positive initiative beyond that of national governments, and its members "take an oath to look at the dimensions of the area as a whole." The new British members of the Commission, like those UK citizens on the secretariat of the United Nations, will have to think of themselves as international. It can be argued that a stronger political body is needed above the Commission; but that is the point which Mr Heath and others prefer to leave in the misty distance.

## Mr Walker's first aid

If a patient is suffering simultaneously from haemorrhage and anaemia even the largest bandage is of limited value. The £100 millions public works programme announced yesterday can provide no cure for the problem of unemployment. At best it will restrain any deterioration in the employment situation in the development and in intermediate areas. For this the programme should be welcomed. Scotland, the North-east, and the other unemployment black spots will need all the relief they can get next winter. The programme will also help to improve the social infrastructure of the development areas. In the longer term this will make it easier to attract new industries.

But it is a little ironic that as a result of this emergency programme many of the schemes—for improvement of roads and minor school building works—which fell victims to earlier Conservative cuts in public expenditure will now be resumed. It would be quite wrong for Mr Heath

and his colleagues to imagine that they have discharged their responsibility to the economy simply by increasing public works spending. The core of the unemployment and economic growth problems cannot be tackled in this way. Only through measures to expand production and consumption will the drift be reversed.

Mr Barber should announce before the end of the month that he proposes to reduce purchase tax, ease hire purchase terms, and cut Bank rate. Public works can staunch the bleeding. But to cure the anaemia a vigorous reflationary tonic is necessary. The trouble is that general reflation cannot work quickly enough to make a big difference this winter. That is why the Government is encouraging school leavers in some of the development areas to stay on at school until next year. But if the Chancellor follows Mr Peter Walker's announcement yesterday with a package of expansionary measures a real improvement may be hoped for next year.

## Cypriot enigma variations

During 11 long years as Cypriot President, His (enigmatic) Beatitude Archbishop Makarios has graduated from the bloody to the benign with slippery grace. Casually observed, he seems a Commonwealth and Mediterranean fixture now—non-aligned conference adduct, bluffer of sherry-drinking tourists, assassin dodger, and scourge of UN diplomats. It is a severe shock suddenly to find him with back to the wall, battling for political survival. Yet that is precisely the current situation as Cypriots see it. And Makarios is stoking this alarm, publicly mixing all manner of menacing metaphors.

In sum the crisis is simple. Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders have spent three fruitless years in local talks to heal the divided island. Many Greek Cypriots think too many concessions have been made already, while the Turks (on Ankara instructions) have pressed for a large measure of communal autonomy in local government. Result: hot, tetchy stalemate. Into this boring deadlock, however, has lately come a new Turkish regime headed by Professor Nihat Erim, who helped draw up the original 1960 Cypriot constitution. Erim thinks his old formula for divided rule is still valid. Colonel Papadopoulos in Athens, sick of Cyprus and anxious to draw closer to the right-wing Turks, has made common cause. Both big brothers are putting heavy pressure on Makarios to accept segmented local government

and forget his dream of a unified isle. His Beatitude is being instructed to get on with conciliation, or get out. Incensed, he in turn is preparing for a final belligerent break with Papadopoulos. And if there is war talk in the tight little Cypriot arena, then war itself is never more than a few stray bullets away.

That threat, at least, ought to give the snarling combatants pause. A pause for common sense and outside mediation. The Graco-Turkish axis is right to be fed up to the back teeth with Cyprus. His Beatitude is right to insist on a solution that works. The 1960 constitution failed because it was manipulated by men of ill will and disregarded by outside governments when the mood suited them. A new variation on that born of frustration will prove similarly defective and can never truly work if the Greek Cypriot majority despise it. At the same time Makarios's own negotiators have slumped into a negative, defensive rôle—a complacent refusal to realise that the only way to get foreign powers off their back is to work out a generous settlement on the ground.

Thus the stage seems set, at last, for decisive United Nations intervention. U Thant has his troops there and his diplomats ready. What he needs now is the initiative to strike for a settlement—a settlement Makarios can gain international acceptance for (and protection of). It is a somewhat shiversome choice: an end to UN lethargy or the ominous prospect of Papadopoulos burning Makarios's Byzantine wet blanket.

## A COUNTRY DIARY

NORTH DEVON: A mystery surrounds the female of the pair of blackbirds about which I wrote eight weeks ago. She vanished; and the visit of a bird of prey coincided with her disappearance. This marauding bird came to the garden from the open fields. By chance its arrival and my movement to the window coincided. I saw a banked turn more powerful than that of any garden bird, then a barred, rufous underside; a male sparrow hawk had swept through the beeches and passed as silently as an owl through some elms. Though I considered a blackbird to be rather large prey for a sparrow hawk, it was a remarkable fact that after the visitation of the hawk we did not see her. Days passed. I made one blackbird had been seen dead, but no case fitted the facts exactly. Sparrow hawks sometimes make lightning swoops on places where small birds feed and this was not the first time that this one had visited us. The solitary male blackbird assumed the considerable task of feeding the fledglings which followed him, alone. That was to have been the end of this description. Then suddenly after an absence of two weeks she was there again and almost at once the pair set about building a new nest. What caused a hen bird, normally present in the territory every day, to desert a brood only ten days after they have flown? And where had she been? Down on Braunton Burrows for a rest and some sea air—leaving father at home to look after the kids?

BRIAN CHUGG.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## EEC (1): a vision that stops short on the shop floor

Sir,—Many people in this country and on the Continent are puzzled by Labour's volte-face on Europe. But there is really nothing very puzzling about it. Labour has never been particularly pro-European—except on paper, and in opposition. Nor have the trade unions, who are strong on industrial agitation but weak on political theory and direction. The intellectuals and thinkers in the Labour movement are permanently outnumbered by trade unionists who prefer to fight their own battles on narrow territory.

On Europe, as on industrial relations, they are sectarian and insular and have seldom been otherwise. They fear, with good

cause, that if Britain joins the Common Market many of their own restrictive practices will have to go by the board. They will have to accept new disciplines which will no doubt increase productivity but give little pleasure.

They already see in the Government's Industrial Relations Bill a foretaste of what life will be like in the Common Market. They oppose the Bill and therefore oppose the shop floor and the bench.

How then did Sir Wilson's Government get a 426 majority in favour of joining in 1967? The answer is simple. The second application was made on the cheap. There was not the

remotest chance of its being accepted so long as General de Gaulle was alive. He was known not to have taken it seriously. But with the General dead they have been caught out—hence scurrying for cover, the hastily built escape hatches.

Not an edifying spectacle from one of the great parties of state. But at least on Europe Labour are being true to form. Let us not forget that Clem Attlee turned down the early overtures from the Iron, Coal and Steel Pool—Yours faithfully,

Stuart R. de la Mahottière,  
St Bride's House,  
Salisbury Square,  
London EC 4.

## EEC (2): The American example

Sir,—I am glad to see that the question has at last been raised in your correspondence columns of whether "economic growth" resulting from Common Market entry and the creation of a European super-state are necessarily objectives which we should be pursuing (Harley Sherlock's letter July 12).

None of the so-called Common Market experts appears yet to have entertained, never mind answered, the question of how the economy of a

"United States of Western Europe" will avoid following the frightening example of the economy of the United States of America where huge corporations pursue profits through the profligate waste of natural resources in producing cheap consumer goods, while 24 million people live below the official poverty line.

Even more disturbing is the simple-minded assumption made by certain pro-Marketees, as exemplified recently in your columns by Lord George-Brown, that a Western European super-

power would be a force for good in the world at large.

Before making such an assumption, the "super-Europeans" must explain in what way a Europe which will not necessarily be dominated by Britain but which will have access to British nuclear strength and man-power will avoid the results in which the USA and the USSR have fallen.

—Yours faithfully,  
William James,  
40 Overstrand Mansions,  
Prince of Wales Drive,  
London SW 11.

## Cloud Cuckoo land is the safe haven

Sir,—Your description of Mr Lynch's call for the unity of Ireland by peaceful agreement as a dangerous descent into Cloud Cuckoo Land. But faced with the continual occupation of Northern Ireland by the British Army and the inevitable growth of public hostility and with open warfare, what other sane alternative is there? Home Rule for a United Ireland, once one of the planks of Liberal policy, is the only logical solution to a situation created not by the Irish but by us in Britain.

Any peaceful agreement must of course take account of both the legitimate and imaginary fears of Northern Protestants. The Republic could instantly assuage some of these fears by altering now its laws concerning divorce, abortion, the sale of contraceptives etc. A further reform, based ironically on educational practice in the one-time home of William of Orange, could be the abolition of denominational primary and secondary schools and of the teaching of religion in these schools.

It would be folly to pretend that any such reforms would come easily in Ireland. But a peaceful agreement which included them could lead to a union which would be infinitely preferable to the maintenance of the Cloud Cuckoo province of Northern Ireland, which is sustained at enormous cost to the British taxpayer and hazards the lives of British soldiers. It is scandalous to scorn Mr Lynch's peaceful overtures while this province remains one of the only places in Europe where the streets are patrolled by fully armed soldiers who occasionally shoot to kill.

Ian Rodger,  
Mr Aylesbury,  
Buckinghamshire.



## A case for neutral intervention

Sir,—The explosive pressures in Ulster continue inexorably to mount. Clearly some where a policy decision has been taken to goad the army to intervene which would serve a political purpose. Is not this a situation where, to break the log-jam, a new factor might usefully be introduced?

I write to suggest that the cooperation of Canada be invited. She has earmarked and specially trained units of her armed forces in the techniques of peace-keeping, and holds them available on call for the UN Security Council. Just as in 1964 several Commonwealth African countries

## British Rail stay on a quiet line

Sir,—Your correspondent Miss Alison Leigh and Mr R. Shipp (July 12) appear to have read too much into the remarks reported in Peter Hillmore's article "Cooler by Rail" (July 9) about the first standard air-conditioned train in Europe.

It is interesting to note that no one commented on Mr Hillmore's amusing aside that we have "no plans to show on board movies," in the new trains but, because the coaches have an internal public address system, the mere mention of music has provoked correspondence.

Although consideration was given to this matter, I am sure your correspondents and others who read their letters, will be pleased to know that we have the intention of relaying music or intruding in any way, apart from giving train information, upon our customers' quiet enjoyment during their journeys.—Yours faithfully,  
C. W. F. Cook,  
P.R.O., British Rail,  
Eastern Region.

## A vanished musical heritage

Sir,—The death of Louis Armstrong has precipitated the sound of jazz music into the lives of a large number of people and even the BBC were forced to pay generous homage to that great man and the music he embodied.

It is, therefore, with a mixture of incredulity and anger that we read in a newspaper report that the BBC has wiped out a unique series of video tapes involving jazz musicians of the best of British—many were made for a series screened on BBC-2. The series included work by such artists as Miles Davis, Cecil Taylor, Charlie Shavers, Joe Venuti, the Clarke-Boland Band and others.

One is reminded of an earlier decision to erase a tape by the late Albert Ayler before it was even shown to the public—not by the Head of Music as one might expect but by the Head of Light Entertainment!

If, by some sci-fi miracle, some of the great music of the past were to be discovered which showed them at work in the improvising process it would of course be considered an unthinkable act of philistinism to behave in this way. Meanwhile, for the living performers who are left to carry on and develop this great tradition of twentieth-century music,

it would appear to be a case once more of relegation on Radio One to the small hours of Monday morning, and more off-peak tokenism on Network Three.

When, one is entitled to wonder, will the most important single benefactor of living music in this country begin to undertake its responsibilities to this form of art and entertainment with any continuing degree of serious commitment?

—Yours faithfully,  
John Dankworth (Pres.), John Surman (Vice-Pres.), Don Banks, Michael Tyack, Eric Hobbsawm, Jack Brymer (Patrons).

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5 Egmont House,  
118 Shaftesbury Avenue,  
London W 1.

## Slogan for the age

Sir,—Your correspondent Mark Eaton, echoes the age-old cry of children, "I want and so" must have. It would seem that "I want" is the approved slogan for this permissive age and so we have abortion and pills for 12-year-olds.—Yours sincerely,  
L. A. Myers.

"Ann Arbor,"  
11 Manor Gardens,  
Saxmundham,  
Suffolk.

## The danger of more Waltons

Sir,—The news of rumblings and disturbance at Walton Prison, Liverpool (Guardian July 12) comes as no surprise to those who know the prison well. Indeed, with the serious and ever increasing overcrowding of most of the prisons in this country, it is a wonder that they remain relatively tranquil.

However, prison staff and prisoners are obliged to exist in such oppressive conditions in many prisons that this uneasy state of tranquillity cannot continue for much longer.

The Probation and After-Care Service can help to alleviate this problem in the following ways:

1. By providing the courts with full social inquiry reports to assist in determining the most appropriate cases for prison sentences.
2. By providing effective pro-

bation supervision to keep criminals out of prison.

3. By providing effective "through" and "after-care" to prevent prisoners from returning to crime and to prison.

4. By providing parole facilities to enable prisoners to be released before their normal release date (success figures for parole are very high).

5. By mobilising community resources towards helping offenders in general and so preventing recidivism.

6. By providing the courts with increased opportunities for sentences of "supervised liberty" as envisaged in the Wootton Report.

All this depends on the Probation and After-Care Service not only being preserved at its present strength, but also being expanded rapidly. Whilst paying lip service to such a policy,

Mr Maudling (Home Secretary) is apparently prepared to sit back and watch the service declining because of its inadequate salary prospects.

Probation Officers provide for the community a valuable service at a relatively low cost to the taxpayer. Yet they are forbidden by the Government to have a decent salary on the grounds that such would not be in the national interest.

If Mr Maudling and the Government would direct to the Probation and After-Care Service just a tiny proportion of the cash and enthusiasm which they are directing to the Common Market, then the problem would be solved.—Yours faithfully,  
D. A. Mathieson,  
Chairman,  
North Western Branch of the  
National Association of  
Probation Officers.

## How we were misled

"YESTERDAY'S MEN," the BBC TV programme that had the Labour Party in a fury, is still not yesterday's news. After the BBC's own inquiry, JOE HAINES, Press Secretary to Harold Wilson, puts Labour's case for complaint.

A MEMORANDUM setting out Labour's case against the makers of "Yesterday's Men" was delivered to Broadcasting House on Tuesday, June 22. It was unambiguously addressed to the Chairman and Governors of the BBC. The Governors did not receive it apparently not hear of its detailed contents before their special meeting on Wednesday, July 7—15 days later. That meeting was called to consider the findings of the BBC's own inquiry into the BBC. The inquiry's verdict accompanied, if it did not precede, the evidence.

Had the Governors examined the memorandum at greater leisure, it is difficult to believe—though not impossible—that they would have issued the statement that they did.

The Labour anger over "Yesterday's Men" was not principally about questions to Mr Wilson on the money he was paid for his book. They were included in the main paragraph of the memorandum: "... Mr Wilson and his colleagues were, in their opinion, induced to appear in this film by representations which were misleading and about which there is some evidence to believe that they were deliberately misleading."

Nor was the cause of BBC independence, to which the Governors felt moved to rally so strongly, at stake. The final paragraph of the memorandum was explicit: "It ought to be unnecessary to say—but nevertheless should be said—that nothing in this controversy is concerned with freedom of speech and the right of disclosure to the public of knowledge to which they are entitled."

The Labour leaders asserted—and still assert—that they were misled. If they are right, then the threat to the BBC's independence arises from inside the Corporation, from as it is of over the sanction or reproach which the Press Council can impose on the news paper industry.

The Governor's statement ("I'll be the judge and I'll be the jury," said cunning old Fury, reaching for the whitewash, however, rather than the black cap) preserves, rather than disposes of, the question. The BBC, naturally, were delighted by their success and brashly invited the press to a further private showing (with refreshments) of "Yesterday's Men" a few hours before publication of the Governors' report.

The Governors added little to public knowledge of the making of the film—except to prove the Labour case up to the hilt with the disclosure that the synopsis for the programme, prepared nine months ago, was headed "Yesterday's Men" and included among its intentions that to seek comments "on the 'secrets' that were being made public in memoirs."

Neither that title nor that intention was ever communicated to the participants. Why not? The Labour memorandum stated that the only explanation known of is a published statement by Mr Dimbleby that as they had not asked about the title or stipulated its character he did not think it appropriate to tell them of the title or consult them about it. Throughout the making of the film the title attributed to it was "The Opposition."

Deliberate misrepresentation? Put the question another way. Does anyone at the BBC believe that the programme would have been agreed to if Labour leaders had been aware of the synopsis?

The Governors thought it an "error" that it was not realised the accompanying music by The Scaffold pop group "represented a substantial change in the atmosphere in which the film would be interpreted by the participants from that which they might have expected from the earlier descriptions of the programme."

But not deliberate misrepresentation? It was for reasons like these that the Labour memorandum was concerned "to make the clear-cut allegation that the film and the form in which it appeared was a breach of faith."

As for the questions to Mr Wilson, the Governors insisted that in a programme "devoted to the political problems encountered in Opposition, it was permissible and proper for a BBC reporter to ask Mr Wilson what money he received."

But that was not, apparently, the view taken by the BBC hierarchy immediately after the interview on May 11. On May 12, Mr John Curran, special assistant to Mr Charles Curran, the Director-General, telephoned me to say that he had "no hesitation in saying that the whole of that section will be destroyed formally, lost sight of and forgotten. I still possess my original shorthand note of that conversation."

And Mr Curran seemed to agree. Later in May, he sent to Mr Wilson the BBC tape of the interview, saying that to the best of his knowledge it was the only copy in existence. He even included an internal memo from the producer of the programme, Miss Pope, to Mr John Grist, head of BBC Current Affairs, which stated that the "offending question" was on "Tak 240/1."

That was the question deleted by the Governors at the last minute and whose transcript was subsequently leaked to the press.

Did Mr Curran approve of the questions? Apparently not. When he evening before the showing he disclosed, for the first time, that the episode was included in the film, he added: "Your answers seem to me to be dignified and to put Dimbleby in his proper place. I would have thought that greatly to your advantage."

The undertaking I thought I had received from Mr Curran was not the only one: in the tape donated by Mr Curran, Miss Pope can clearly be heard answering the question whether the offending paragraph would be cut out. "Yes, of course we will."

A few moments later, she added "Obviously we will hear, she added words indistinguishable cut out (two question and answer). The transcript of that tape was sent to the Governors as an annex to the memorandum. They appeared to have ignored it.

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How  
we  
misled

BELFAST is coming to once again, after another long summer weekend of excesses, traditional, devotional, and just plain brutal. As one might expect, the city is in a rampant, livid mood, counting the cost yet another time of the nightly terrorism.

The city merchants have come back to their shops on Royal Avenue to find their windows blown out, their masonry shattered, their stock destroyed. Holiday-makers have returned to find two more Catholics and two more soldiers shot dead, much as they had probably feared when they took their families off to Cushendal or Corrig Glen in the middle of last week.

The violence, especially the killing of Private Barton early this morning, seems to have taken the edge off the political developments of the weekend. With Stormont not sitting, the situation is public, surely the most politically aware public to be found anywhere, might be forgiven for taking their minds off the gyrations of Messrs Faulkner and Fitt for a few weeks.

## Can Stormont keep Fitt?

Simon Winchester in Belfast, Wednesday, on the long hot political summer to come

But it is becoming rapidly apparent now that the weekend announcement by Mr Fitt's party that they might withdraw their labour from Ulster's parliamentary system, may well have profound and far-reaching consequences. The long hot summer we have all come to expect may be longer and hotter in the political sense than on the streets.

Unless he wants to forego virtually all the political credibility which still adheres to him and his six followers, Mr Fitt is almost certainly going to have to proceed with his withdrawal at midnight. With Stormont still sitting, the situation is public, surely the most politically aware public to be found anywhere, might be forgiven for taking their minds off the gyrations of Messrs Faulkner and Fitt for a few weeks.

He will then take with him all but one of the Stormont Opposition and on October 5, when the Commons returns from its summer recess, Mr Faulkner, his 34 Unionists,

the two Independents who support him, Dr Paisley, and Mr Beattie are going to have to gaze across Stormont's turquoise carpet at the lone and undoubtedly rather sheepish figure of Vivian Simpson, the Labour Party's representative in Parliament, in glorious political quarantine on the benches opposite.

This situation is not new to Stormont. In fact as the Unionists are celebrating 30 years of continuous rule in Ulster this year, so might the opposition now well be commemorating their own withdrawal from this same Parliament half a century ago. That first parliament meeting in June, 1921, should have had 40 Unionists on the Government benches and six Nationalists and six Sinn Féiners including the young Eamon de Valera who sat for County Down on the opposition.

But none of Her Majesty's loyal opposition considered

themselves either Her Majesty's or loyal and never bothered to attend. And it was not until de Valera entered the Dail in 1924 that abstentionism ceased to be a respectable tool of political dissent in Ireland.

But the Unionist government of those days found no difficulty in ruling for four years without a single word of disagreement. The attitude taken to De Valera the nationalist MP for West Belfast, who was the first to raise a parliamentary voice against those in 1925 was that he was really a bit of a nuisance but thank heavens we've got an irrefragable majority and by George we'll make sure we'll keep it so.

Whether nowadays a monoglot Unionist parliament at Stormont, excepting Mr Simpson's solitary efforts, would continue to win the confidence of Westminster, who still of course maintain overall supremacy over Ulster's affairs, is very

much open to question.

In his days as Home Secretary, Mr Callaghan made it perfectly clear that Stormont would continue to receive the fullest support and co-operation from London so long as it remained apparent that Stormont was both a reforming and a representative body. Reforming it certainly has been for the last two years; and though the proportion of proportional representation might not agree it has also been broadly representative of the political spectrum present in the province.

But if Mr Fitt takes his flock out to some draughty meeting hall in Derry or Durgannon, there to sit as an alternative assembly which will spend most of its time thumbing its nose at a wholly Unionist parliament administering millions of pounds of public money, could Westminster continue to give this support and cooperation for long?

Clearly Mr Maundling would not be forced into any rapid action. Unless of course he became so concerned at the consequences that he was to persuade Lord Carrington to open the inquiry Mr Fitt so badly wants. He would not prorogue or dissolve Stormont for weeks or months. But, come November or December, public opinion in Britain and indeed Westminster Parliamentary opinion would find the existence of a one-party parliament legislating for a country so palpably composed of at least two fundamentally opposing views totally ludicrous.

Mr Maundling would be hard pressed to ignore such a situation, especially since it might well find its expression on the street.

So it is hardly surprising that Republicans see the opposition's manoeuvring as something of a master stroke. In one move — an incon-

venient one, of course, for those poorer MPs like Messrs Curran, O'Hanlon and Devlin, now that the opposition will have to stop drawing their salaries of £1,750 a year — they will have made Stormont look ridiculous and will in the Republican view have increased the likelihood of its dissolution and the eventual Westminster takeover for which they are all hoping.

There is speculation in Government circles that the whole operation has in fact been masterminded by Republicans who, it is said, have been exerting pressure for the SDLP for months either to do something effective as an opposition or else resign en bloc.

In all fairness it can hardly be claimed that the opposition has made any significant impact on Government policy in recent months, reform proposals or not. The Ulster branch which Mr Faulkner held out to them next month in the shape of seats and

chairmanships of the three functional committees must have horrified those devout Republicans to whom any idea of a rapprochement is anathema.

The controversy over the shootings in Londonderry, the Government says, was simply the excuse the Republicans needed to force the opposition into taking an irreversible decision to withdraw.

And it certainly will be irreversible. Unless Lord Carrington gives in, which looks rather unlikely, Mr Fitt will have to withdraw or else suffer appalling damage to the credibility of his already disorganised and inefficient party machine. Gerry, though, is by nature a parliamentarian, and he alone of the opposition must be forced on him by John Hume and Ivan Cooper, perhaps ultimately, by Dublin.

But reluctant or not he is about to take a step that may prove to be a watershed of developments over the next few months that could alter the political fabric of Ulster, dramatically and irrevocably.

## Published and damned

George Armstrong in Rome on the fate of a liberal Roman Catholic review

THE "last" issue of Italy's only liberal Roman Catholic review, *"Il Regno"*, is now in the hands of its 10,000 subscribers. The issue contains a letter from the editorial staff, two laymen and three priests, explaining that they were fired on June 27 by the review's owner, which is Bolognese, a part of the religious order of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. They claim that mounting pressure from the Pope's Secretary of State, from Italian bishops, and from the Pope's personal theologian, forced their superiors to fire them because they were "frightened by a loss of favour among the hierarchy."

A spokesman for the religious order says that *"Il Regno"* (The Reign) will reappear in the autumn, though almost certainly it will then be another conservative journal.

The bi-monthly recently provoked the anger of the Vatican and the bishops by its opposition to the Italian anti-divorce lobby, and to their efforts to abolish the new divorce law by a referendum. It also outraged the Roman Curia, and won the gratitude of a large segment of the Roman Catholic world by publishing the secret text of the Fundamental Law or constitution, which the Curia had hoped to foist on the Church, with as little consultation with the laity as possible. The law now has been put in the deep freezer following worldwide protests, thanks to the Bolognese review's unauthorised publication.

Ironically, and somewhat sadly, the last issue contains the complete text of the Vatican's recent liberal instructions on the Church and the communications media, which, like other things, "free dialogue within the Church does no injury to her unity and solidarity," and "if public opinion is to emerge in the proper manner, it is absolutely essential that there be freedom to express ideas and attitudes."

The same issue also has a report on the position of the Church in Angola and Mozambique, with documents attesting to the complicity of the local hierarchy with the Portuguese authorities. Moreover, *Il Regno* prints an article by Father Bernard Haring, one of the Church's leading moral theologians, which indirectly attacks the Fundamental Law and suggests an alternative which would be a declaration of fundamental principles. It is a splendid piece, and it is fortunate that it reached *"Il Regno"* before the review was silenced.

The following are some excerpts from Father Haring's criticism of the law, and the guidelines he suggests for the "alternative."

"The Gospel is the only true constitutional charter of the Church."

"Canonical legislation is not an instrument of an authority which dominates, but that of a 'Diakonia', through which the Holy Spirit makes the Church grow in fidelity to the Gospel and in the saving grace of humanity."

"The Church's discipline, as much in its content as in its language, does not mirror a society which is judicially formed by authority and subjects, by rights and duties."

"The Church's lawmakers should bear in mind the Lord's words: 'The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.'"

"The life of the Church is noted for a parsimonious use of laws: in that way the Church testifies that it puts its faith in the power of the Holy Spirit."

"The Church is grateful for the past benefits derived from Canon Law. It confesses however to the sins and the defects which have been perpetuated in the name of Canon Law."

ON the surface the prospects for industry in the Common Market look very gloomy. In spite of optimistic statements by leading businessmen, the signs of companies preparing to change are curiously elusive. British industry, already seriously undercapitalised compared with its European competitors, is planning to reduce its capital expenditure this year when it should be laying down extra capacity to meet the challenge of Europe. Worse still, the biggest reductions are planned by our biggest exporting industries, motors and engineering.

The two most authoritative academic studies (one by Professor Williamson of Warwick University and the other at the Department of Applied Economics at Cambridge) both concluded tentatively that the favourable and unfavourable effects are roughly balanced. The Cambridge study found "winners" and "losers" among particular products, but was less clear about the prospects for individual industries.

Yet, in spite of a decline in its own capital spending plans and the somewhat gloomy view presented by the academics, British industry is strongly in favour of entry. Why?

The answer is that most businessmen are looking to Europe to liberate them from the debilitating effects of a constricted home market and sluggish internal growth. They know the short-term effects could be bad, but, after the transitional period is over they expect the so-called "dynamic effects" to carry industry into a new era in which the prospects for long-term growth are at least more secure than if we stayed out.

In the longer term EEC membership is expected to generate more trade than would otherwise have been the case. This will trigger off a reorganisation of production as companies shop wider for cheaper suppliers. The result will be increased specialisation of production, greater use of economies of scale which in turn should bring about more investment.

Important sectors of the economy, like chemicals, motors, and engineering, will benefit from the increased size of their "home" market brought about by the common external tariff. In the past, progressive companies in Britain have been constrained by the slow growth of the home economy. To expand

IF the Tory party in the country is supposed to be seething with anti-European feeling, there was no sign of it in Central Hall, Westminster. Perhaps it was because the parties were over-represented at the special meeting of the Central Council. Perhaps it was due to the weather, for the 3,000 expected didn't show up and the hot and uncomfortable hall was far from full.

Perhaps it was because the Tory party, quite unlike the Labour Party, is too well-mannered to give its leader a hard time, especially when he is bringing down the Prime Ministerial confidence. Having read out his speech in the usual Heath style, as if the text had been carved for him in wood, the Prime Minister once again showed himself to be an impressive and much more winning exponent of the art of question and answer.

His answers were for the most part competent and to the point; he avoided the arrogant manner which sometimes irritates even his supporters, and he spoke with eloquent feeling when the question touched upon his patriotic faith in Britain's

## 1789 and all that



## Dynamic dilemmas

FOCUS ON EUROPE: Victor Keegan on industry's mixed prospects

fast than average meant increased reliance on exports at considerable cost in profitability because of the tariffs that had to be paid. Within the EEC, British companies believe that, for the first time, they will have the opportunity of planning confidently for years ahead, freed from the effects of stop-go, in the knowledge that exports will be more profitable than in the past.

The fact that industry is expecting the benefits to be long term may also help to explain its cavalier attitude to investment now.

In the face of agnosticism from the academics, only the bold would attempt to be dogmatic about Britain's industrial prospects. The following is intended only as an impressionistic guide to the prospects of individual sectors:

**Motor Manufacturing**—as Britain's biggest exporter it will have to bear more of a fair share of the "costs of entry," like agricultural contributions. Outwardly manufacturers are extremely optimistic, expecting gains of hundreds of millions of pounds by the end of the decade. They are talking of doubling their share of the European market to eight per cent or a third of all imports. An even greater increase is expected for commercial vehicles whose sales to Europe are con-



European future. But the questions and the responses of the audience were the more interesting aspect of the afternoon.

There was not one single plain housewife's question on the subject of the subject was about the only major aspect of the subject not covered in 29 questions. Prices were touched upon, of course, in questions concerned with food and social security benefits, but nobody brought up the price of the French pig; the word butter wasn't mentioned.

This squared with a further impression. That is the Common Market issue, within days of the formal opening of the "Great Debate," is rapidly polarising as a party issue. It begins to look as if the Labour Party may successfully appropriate the cheap food issue while the Conservative Party closes

feud d'artifice, after sunset, since it is a poor municipality which cannot come by a few rockets and Roman candles. It is hard to think of a more genuinely national fête than the commemorative of the fall of that Bastille which was at once a house of cards and a powerful symbol.

The "quatorze" is so much the type of public jamboree, which carries no obligations, you do not feel you should have gone to mass as on the feast of the Assumption, or called upon your great aunt Odile, as on New Year's Day, while conferring licence for all hands to dance and sky-jark, that it is difficult to believe that France had to wait 91 years until she was allowed to celebrate. Not until 1880 was official approval given to mark the

strained by a giant 22 per cent tariff.

But manufacturers' projections seem to assume that everything will go right for them: the fact is that a combination of a weak home market and a disastrous strike record has left the motor industry in a very vulnerable position indeed—as the run-away success of imports over the past 12 months will confirm.

Even the success of commercial vehicles—whose prospects are theoretically the best—is by no means assured. Entry into the European market will necessitate the setting up of, not just a country-wide, but a Continental dealer network which is an extremely expensive business.

One is forced to the conclusion—devaluation apart—that the success of Britain's motor industry depends on an act of faith. If the home market is allowed to expand and the industry has a long trouble-free production run, then it might just be able to build up the funds for new investment, fresh model ranges, and expansion of its marketing outlets. The alternative hardly bears thinking of.

**Engineering**—the prospects range from good for products like tractors and electrical control apparatus, where Britain's development specialises, to dismal in areas like machine tools,

PETER JENKINS

## Whip cracking

English Channel was beginning to dawn among the heartier members of the Tory rank-and-file.

The Tory audience was at its most sceptical when the Prime Minister's patriotic appeals. There is a large constituency of potential chauvinism and xenophobia (the perversion of nationalism) in the country, and Mr Heath is competing with the Little Englanders in mobilising it behind the theme of "Britain's future greatness."

He said, revealingly, that he had for the first time detected a sense of the country turning in on itself, the canvassing in his Bexley constituency in 1964. He felt that as a people "we were becoming narish and bitter and rather unpleasant." And he concluded that the British with their long history of looking out on the world and moving out into it "can't do justice to them-

self when indeed, "the power was in the street."

But if the celebrations are nationwide, it is certainly true that, in Paris, they are bigger and better, more varied and more enthusiastic. They began last night when, in anticipation of this evening, five big open-air balls organised by the municipality. At midnight, under a polka-dotted, low half-moon, the crowds along the Seine were as lively as if it were mid-afternoon. Cars passed up and down the Champs Elysees playing concertos on their horns, and entirely illicit crackers were sounded from all directions. A few more serious explosions came from the area of Les Halles, where a smallish demonstration against the destruction of the pavilions developed into a limited, but,

they are heavily subsidised all over Europe. The industry can only look forward to higher wage demands, following higher food prices, with little compensation elsewhere. Judging by past performance the aircraft and aero-engines industries have extremely good prospects. Britain has a large trade balance with the EEC and exports considerably more to third markets than the entire aero-engine industry of the Six. But this is an area so dominated by politics, with Governments largely being the buyers and the sellers, that it is difficult to predict for the future—as the rate of the RB21 indicates only too well.

**Steel**—The British Steel Corporation is optimistic on the grounds that more steel will be needed by all our major exporting industries if entry into the EEC results in increased growth for the economy as a whole. Yes, say the cynics, but will they then get it from the EEC? One consequence of entry is that the BSC will have less of a de facto "captive" market for its products. At present it is ill equipped to meet Continental competition in pig-iron because it is still suffering from a decade of undercapitalisation. Its future prospects are very much tied to whether the Government will approve a large part of its ambitious capital expansion programme on which a decision is expected in the autumn.

**Chemicals and Oil**—Oil companies like BP and Shell are already effectively in the Common Market and entry is unlikely to have any dramatic effects, except to the extent that British growth is faster than it would otherwise have done they will sell more oil. To a lesser extent this is true of chemical companies. But groups like ICI have been much more tied to the smallness of the British market than oil companies, which many years ago went "multinational." Outwardly, chemical companies are looking forward to the Common Market though privately there are few signs that they will have a significant effect on investment in the short term.

**Textiles**—Some sectors are expected to come off well like woollen fabrics, but Britain could come off badly on others like bleached cotton fabrics where EEC countries are well ahead. British textile companies are generally favourable to entry though few expect activity to increase significantly.

**Aircraft and Shipbuilding**—Shipbuilders are among the few businesses to come out openly against the EEC. With seagoing ships not subject to tariffs (though, of course,

self unless they are taking part in something greater than themselves." That got a cheer.

There is no way of knowing how typical was yesterday's audience, perhaps not very. The opinion polls still show almost as large a majority of Conservative supporters as Labour against the Common Market. Leading Labour politicians claim to be receiving a growing volume of mail from dissident anti-Market Tories and "indignant Turnbridge Wells."

The European Commission in Brussels has recently been bombarded with anxious and angry letters.

But as the parties now polarise it is to be expected that Conservative voters will tend to close ranks and rally to the European idea. The crumbling of bi-partisanship could ironically produce a significant increase in public support for Europe over the coming months. Yesterday's occasion produced no more than a few straws in the airless atmosphere of a hall normally used for purposes of worship. Yet I have a feeling that the Prime Minister's hymns to patriotism and an echo in the country in the coming months.

repeatedly, characteristic clash with the police.

True enthusiasts are credited with dancing through most of the night of 13-14, having a quick coffee at the nearest bar, then making their way to the Champs Elysees to be sure of a good place for the review of troops in the presence of the President of the Republic. No doubt some of them were to be found among the crowds who, this morning, lined the avenue to see the march past of 10,000 men. This year there were no novelties in the way of arms and equipment. The sensation was the first appearance in the parade of 150 representatives of the Women's Services who, founded in 1940, are now more than 7,000 strong. Much the largest contingent are in the Army, with 2,300 in the

rejection of the "elitist" view that a three-line whip against the Market would cost the Labour Front Bench most of its best talent.

**Mayne chance**

RICHARD MAYNE, one of Britain's most persistent Europeans, is to be the new director of the Federal Trust, which promotes research and discussion of Common Market and supranational organisation. The trust is based in London. About 80 per cent of its money comes from the Ford Foundation, the rest from the European Movement and the more interested corners of Whitehall.

Mayne worked with Jean Monnet when he was fathering European unity, and was once the English spokesman at Common Market headquarters. He has been waiting since December for the Brussels Commissioners to decide whether he should join their representation in London following the loss of the trust's gain.

**WATCH OUT** for "Students for Europe," a new crusade which is recruiting into British universities after the summer holidays. Watch for the hand of Central Office, giving it a loyal Tory push for Ted.

**Novel approach**

"INTELLECTUALISM" will out, one way or another. Nicolas Ceausescu's latest puritanical damper on "bourgeois influences" in Rumania coincides with the first case of underground "intellectualism" literature to come from there.

Rumania has always been one of the toughest places for writers. Even in the days when Solzhenitsyn was a persona grata in the Soviet Union, Ivan Denisovich was not published in Rumania (though Khrushchev allowed it to come out in Moscow). This week Ceausescu criticised his own propaganda department for "intellectualism" creep in Rumania's cowed writers' guild again.

Now Paul Goma, one of the less cowed, is bringing out a novel in Frankfurt. Goma was a prisoner of conscience in 1956 to 1962, and was unable to publish at all till 1966. Parts of his new book have been serialised in Rumania, but he is evidently convinced it will never come out there in full.

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THANKS to the stalwart labours of the American Bar Association's computer in Chicago, every one of the 5,000 American lawyers now in London for their annual conference will attend at least one important social function during their seven-day stay. The computer has been beavering tactfully for a year.

But if the scientific approach fails, human aid is on hand. Sir Frederick Everingham, the British ambassador in El Salvador, has also spent 12 months coordinating the complicated social round, which includes two royal garden parties, receptions of Court, and a reception given by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Peter Studd.

**ONE FOR** the collection. The Post Office on Monday side has sent out a note with its new telephone books inviting subscribers with a query about their entry to call the "Director of Complication Officer." We were warned.

Air Force, and fewer than 200 in the Navy.

This morning, by general consent, the French WAFF, if they accept the title, took the honours for marching in spite of, or possibly because of, the fact that their uniforms include court shoes with medium heels. Military reviews are not primarily concerned with the realities of war. Those realities were there in the morning, the ones who sought them, in the long lines of armoured units which led the parade, the presence of the ship's company of Redoubtable, France's first nuclear submarine, due soon to start her first long cruise, and above all in the fly past of the Air Force.

But basically, the crowd were there to applaud their favourites, and these remain unchanged from year to year.

## MISCELLANY

### Gas bags

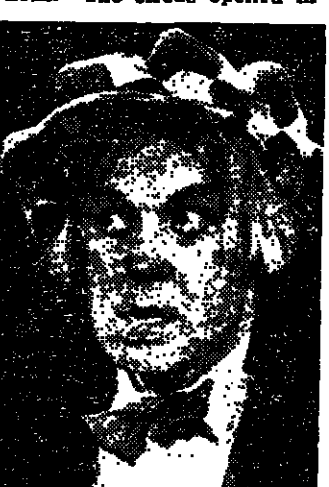
PENSIONS for miners: business for pushy, competitive North Sea gas. Not quite the formula Britain's 200,000 miners had in mind when they agreed to pay 13p a week into a superannuation fund. Not quite the kind of enterprise Dennis Skinner, the young Left-wing miners' MP for Bolsover, expects from either the National Coal Board or the National Union of Mineworkers.

Skinner is protesting because Coal Industry (Nominees) Ltd, a joint company set up to invest the miners' £100 millions, has been putting it into property development, incorporating natural gas central heating. One scheme, in West Bromwich, is costing £3.5 millions. The miners have always been assured that their cash would never be used to further the enemy's cause (any enemy's).

### Well red

POPOV, the leading clown of the Moscow State Circus, is looking for an English dog. Must be small and educated. Doesn't matter if it's a mongrel. But it must have knowledge of the Russian language.

The clown's own dog, an essential companion in his act, has been caught by the British quarantine regulations. The circus opened in



POPOV: dogless

Manchester last night without benefit of dog. Popov hopes that, by the time they move to London on August 4, he will have found a canine understudy.

Wembley Stadium said last night that they had received two or three replies to a newspaper ad. Small and educated, yes. But what's that about the Russian language?

### Unkindest cut

OF ALL the defections of Labour Marketeers, Tony Crosland's has provoked the deepest venom among his old European comrades. Crosland's conversion — to the cause of party unity, if not of full-blooded opposition to British entry — was not understood without much searching of kindred souls.

The speech in which Crosland planned to announce his change of heart and mind was hawked around his Westminster chums last week. Originally, he intended to deliver it at Stoke on Tuesday. Instead, he saved it for a private meeting of the general management committee of his Grimsby constituency party on Friday.

Some of his friends thought Crosland had been persuaded to drop the whole speech. Instead, Crosland simply left out his offending

They are the young scholars, students of the Polytechnique in their black, double-breasted uniforms, the white plumes and swagging march of St Cyr, the chasseurs d'Alpin who wear sloopy black berets known as tartes and march with a quick, short step in mountain boots; and the Foreign Legion with its unique slow pagoda-like percussion instrument which is a feature of its band.

Best of all is the Republican Guard, whose booming mounted escort, all brass and buckskins, provided the first spectacle of the morning when the President of the Republic took his place in the official stand.

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NESTA ROBERTS



# BUSINESS GUARDIAN

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Edited by Anthony Harris and Charles Raw

## Germany cuts dollar price

By TOM TICKELL

The dollar weakened considerably in most Continental exchange markets yesterday after selling by the Bundesbank and a growing belief that Common Market countries might widen their exchange bands against the dollar and allow their currencies to appreciate upwards in a block.

Such a proposal has for some time been advanced by West Germany without success, but several bankers said that France, the only real opponent of the idea, may have relented.

With the Paris foreign exchange market officially closed for the Bastille holiday, the dollar traded elsewhere in terms of the French franc, significantly below the Banque de France's mandatory support point. Some trades were around 5.5095 francs, compared with the support point of 5.5125.

Although the French Finance Minister, M. Giscard d'Estaing, has publicly ruled out a revaluation of the French franc as "absurd," other French Finance Ministry officials have said privately that a widening of the exchange band is under study.

In Frankfurt, the dollar fell to its lowest level yet against the D-mark after the Bundesbank had sold dollars to the market below 3.50 Dm, which it has only done once before.

At one point the dollar fell to 3.4850, down nearly 150 points—or 1½ pence—on the previous day's closing price. Dealers thought that almost all this collapse was caused by the psychological impact of the Bundesbank's announcement which came at the morning fixing, that it was prepared to sell dollars at 3.4975 Dm.

Estimates of the size of the sales vary considerably, one German bank suggested that they were worth between \$40 and \$60 million over the day, while other dealers put the figure at \$100 million at the fixing alone.

What made the Bundesbank do it? The most usual explanation was that it was balancing its books, for it is going to receive big inflows of dollars for the rest of the month. Its last statement showed that \$1.6 billion had come during the first week of July. These funds have become due for there was a massive rush to sell dollars forward in April with the banks agreeing to buy back the dollars they had exchanged for marks in July.

But other dealers thought the reason more devious. The French exchange market was closed yesterday for Bastille Day, and they suggested the Bundesbank could be trying to make things more awkward for the Banque de France by encouraging the dollar inflow which Paris has been taking steps to avoid.

The aim could be to put pressure on President Pompidou to accept a small revaluation or even to float the franc. Even the dealers who thought it would be completely out of character for a central bank to act in that way, admitted that the timing was remarkably hunched.

Meanwhile in Tokyo, the Bank of Japan has cut Bank rate by another 0.25 per cent, so it will now stand at 5.25 per cent. This is the fourth cut of that size since January, and the new rate is the lowest since the war.

## The pound

	Closing Market Rates	Previous Closing Rates
London	2.47 1/2	2.47 1/2
New York	122 1/2	122 1/2
Frankfurt	122 1/2	122 1/2
Paris	122 1/2	122 1/2
Stockholm	122 1/2	122 1/2
Amsterdam	122 1/2	122 1/2
Brussels	122 1/2	122 1/2
Geneva	122 1/2	122 1/2
Basel	122 1/2	122 1/2
Zurich	122 1/2	122 1/2

Bank of England official rate on dollar 2.48-2.49, basement dollar premium 2 1/2, per cent (previous 2 1/2).

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

New York 9.10 c to 9.11 c premium.

London 122 1/2 to 122 3/4 c premium.

Amsterdam 122 1/2 to 122 3/4 c premium.

Brussels 122 1/2 to 122 3/4 c premium.

Geneva 122 1/2 to 122 3/4 c premium.

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London 122 1/2 to 122 3/4 c premium.

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Zurich 122 1/2 to 122 3/4 c premium.

## Four-nation nuclear pact to boost sales and knowledge

By PETER RODGERS, Technology Correspondent

Five European companies, including Britain's Nuclear Power Group, and West Germany's big and successful Kraftwerk Union, yesterday signed a technology and marketing pact for nuclear reactors.

This is the most important attempt yet to get European collaboration in the now day-to-day business of building commercial nuclear power stations, although many of the specific agreements in the pact may take some time to start working.

The agreement excludes joint sales efforts in Britain or West Germany, the home countries of the two most powerful companies in the five. The others are Agip Nucleaire of Italy, Interatom of Germany, and Belgonucleaire, KWU and TNP are the only two directly

involved in building commercial power reactors, and KWU also owns Interatom which is developing fast breeder reactors—the next generation, which breed their own fuel.

All five companies have also agreed to cooperate in technology and exchange know-how and licences, and there is an outline agreement for cooperating in designing and building fast breeders.

On the marketing side, KWU and TNP have already bid jointly for power stations in Australia, Brazil and Thailand, each submitting its own designs on the understanding that whichever wins, both share the work. But in spite of the agreement there are still no firm prospects for new bids and it is not known when a joint one might be submitted in a European country.

## Industry's investment down 8pc

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

Revised figures published yesterday give an even gloomier picture of industry's capital expenditure in the first quarter than had been expected. Investment by manufacturing industry is now seen to be 8 per cent below the level of the last quarter of 1970 compared with earlier estimates of 7 per cent.

The new figures, published yesterday by the Department of Trade and Industry, show that manufacturers invested £387 million in the first quarter (at 1963 prices). Capital expenditure on new buildings and on plant and machinery was 8 per cent below the level of the previous quarter and spending on vehicles 4 per cent below.

The revised figures show that the increase of stocks of finished goods held by manufacturers in the first quarter at £70 million, although high, was not as great as the provision estimate of £80 million made last month.

Investment by the distributive and services industries fell back 9 per cent in the first quarter while shipping investment slumped by 30 per cent over the same period.

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involved in building commercial power reactors, and KWU also owns Interatom which is developing fast breeder reactors—the next generation, which breed their own fuel.

All five companies have also agreed to cooperate in technology and exchange know-how and licences, and there is an outline agreement for cooperating in designing and building fast breeders.

On the marketing side, KWU and TNP have already bid jointly for power stations in Australia, Brazil and Thailand, each submitting its own designs on the understanding that whichever wins, both share the work. But in spite of the agreement there are still no firm prospects for new bids and it is not known when a joint one might be submitted in a European country.

If a bid in which TNP participates does succeed, the corporation recently set up by the Government, is likely to be involved in fuel supply.

TNP said yesterday that European national markets were too small for a single national company to both recover its investment and compete successfully in third countries. The company sees the agreement as the first step to much closer integration which may eventually lead to a merger.

The five companies said that they wanted to "form a strong and efficient European nuclear industrial group capable of meeting the technological challenge of the next decades." They

is a cash alternative worth 210p for each Myers ordinary share.

Ironically UDS sold its entire mail order business to Myers last 14 months ago but now, having seen just how profitable mail order can be—Myers is currently earning profits of around £1 million on sales of £20 million—it decided to bid for the whole company.

Meanwhile, Mr Jack Sampson, president of UDS, told shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting that prospects for the group had "never been better."

Sales for the first 23 weeks of the year had increased by 12 per cent and he was confident that results of UDS for the current year would show a marked improvement.

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would also like other big companies to join.

The French nuclear industry is a notable omission from the pact and highlights the nationalistic which any attempt to co-operate in nuclear power must face. The exclusion of German and British markets is another example. The two governments have spent hundreds of millions of pounds building up their home industries and refuse to allow foreign companies to build their nuclear power stations. These attitudes are unlikely to change quickly.

Technology, licensing, and other specific agreements between the five are few at the moment. But Mr S. H. Ghalib, managing director of TNP, said in Brussels that between them they had the know-how and expertise on every reactor available today. He thought that too many companies around the world chasing too few orders meant that separately companies could not survive. The group's cooperation would not at first produce many cost savings but would arise as research, development, and marketing were coordinated, he added.

The British consortia, now reduced to TNP and British Nuclear Design and Construction, have not been able to get a reactor order from abroad for ten years partly because of the lack of research, development, and marketing.

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## Rumours leave Cunard erratic

By STEWART FLEMING

RUMOURS of a higher bid for Cunard than the 185p offer originally made on June 30 produced erratic conditions in the market for the company's shares yesterday.

On Tuesday Cunard's shares rose 7p to 186p. Yesterday the Cunard share price yawned between 187p and a peak of 188p.

Trafalgar House itself, however, tried to scotch the Stock Exchange's fun and games. It issued a statement saying that although discussions with Cunard were continuing, "they still have under active consideration an offer level 'in the region of 185p' per share as originally announced."

The Trafalgar House statement damped down speculation in the market. It said that the 185p offer was still the one being considered, and that the price had retreated further, to close at 187p.

Significantly this is still above the 185p mark, and this is hardly surprising given that much of yesterday's speculation was based on rumoured terms—a mixture of Trafalgar ordinary shares, and a loan stock with warrants—which would value Cunard at around 210p.

Mr Maxwell Joseph disclosed yesterday that his Grand Metropolitan Hotels group was the "mystery company" which first had talks with Cunard on a possible takeover.

## Worcester China bid withdrawn

The shares of Royal Worcester the bone china and porcelain group fell 10p to 137p yesterday following the news that Morgan Crucible does not intend to make a takeover bid. Mergers talks between the two firms have been dragging on since April and by the time of the announcement of discussions on May 4 the Royal Worcester share price had risen from 112 1/2p (on April 16) to 136p.

The RW board has now made it clear that it is not prepared to recommend the offer to its shareholders. In a statement last night Morgan Crucible says that since the cooperation between executives necessary for a successful merger was unlikely to be realised after a contested bid, discussions had been terminated.

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## Watney £47M bid shakes Truman

By LINDSAY VINCENT

The distinction of being the most expensive brewery takeover in history is the only thing certain about the fate of Truman Hanbury Buxton after yesterday's hectic scramble for the company by both Grand Metropolitan Hotels and Watney Mann.

Yesterday's Sothebyan developments, with the Stock Market as the auction floor, were:

1. A predictable move by 1. Grand Metropolitan's Mr Maxwell Joseph ("I've wanted this move into brewing for a long time") to raise his offer for the company from £34 million to £41 million—or £2 millions above the original Watney Mann bid.

2. An equally predictable decision by Whitbread, not one of Watney's best friends in the closely-knit brewing industry, to accept GM's offer in respect of their key 10.7 per cent shareholding in Truman.

3. A rush to the market by both Watney Mann and GM to bid for stock. Watney Mann came out best with 82,000 shares against "a few thousand" for GM and in the process signalled its intention of topping GM's four-hour old bid.

4. An urgent telephone call from Watney Mann to Brick Lane in London's East End to give warning of an increased offer, which came late last night and values Truman at £48.85 million—more than twice its market capitalisation before the bidding opened.

5. A "unanimous" decision by the overwhelmed Truman board to hold further discussions with both GM and Watney before deciding which offer to recommend.

Breaking records

The question now is whether GM will break its long-standing house records for a second time and increase the terms of its bid. The Watney offer is worth—at last night's closing prices—432p a Truman share, or 7.7 per cent more than the revised bid by GM.

"No reaction tonight" was GM's initial reaction on hearing Watney's new terms. But GM does plan to make another offer this morning's share market will provide the clues.

Watney, with some 19 per cent of Truman's shares now under its belt, will want to add to this holding fast through market purchases. GM has only 2 per cent of Truman but provided it can revise its offer it could count on support of at least 25 per cent.

Whitbread, having finally broken silence on the matter, is likely to stick with GM as long as that company can produce higher terms. After this week's showing which Truman directors prefer GM to Watney, GM could count on a further 15 per cent from the family holdings of certain Truman directors.

As before, Watney is offering a package of shares and loan stock. But the loan stock element has been reduced and in addition Watney is offering shares in International Distilling and Vintners, the Gilbey's Gin group in which Watney is the biggest shareholder with 37 1/2 per cent.

The offer is two Watney shares, 50p of 7 per cent convertible loan stock, 45p of 10 1/2 per cent loan stock plus one IDV share for every one Truman. Should the offer be successful, Watney's holding in IDV would be reduced to 30 per cent—and in exchange for franked income Wat



# COURTAULDS

## Difficult times— more cheerful prospects

In his speech to shareholders at the Annual General Meeting of Courtaulds Limited, which was held on July 14th at the Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W.1, the Chairman, Lord Kesteven, O.B.E., F.R.S., welcomed shareholders to the 58th Annual General Meeting and, after paying tribute to directors who had retired, and dealing with other Board changes, said:

### REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

In commenting on the Report and Accounts last year, I expressed the opinion that the 1969/70 profit figures were good, particularly in the light of adverse circumstances. I listed the adverse circumstances as little growth in the UK economy, sharply increased costs for our raw materials, work stoppages at several of our key sites, and unchanged selling prices. In the financial year to 31.3.71, these same circumstances persisted, and indeed intensified. Additional factors were a textile recession in the USA, reducing our profits there; considerable difficulties with our business in Australia; and an actual falling off in all markets of the selling prices of most fibres. The one fibre which was in short supply was polyester filament, and with it producers continued to make good profits. But polyester was also the fibre field from which your Company had been shut out.

For the second year in succession, your Company was squeezed between rising costs and constant selling prices. Our costs—wages, salaries, raw materials, fuel, and the rest—rose in total by well over £40 million. Our prices overall were unchanged. In a considerable number of areas, prices fell due to over supply and strong buyers. In some cases, where the market conditions were not so severe, or where our customers recognised that without some uplift in prices we would simply stop production, we did get an increase. But overall, in home and export markets, there was no change. Two years of stable prices in inflationary conditions is severe medicine for any Company.

It is nevertheless disappointing for your Board to report lower profits, £41.7 million before taxation, than in the previous two years, especially as those working for the Company increased their incomes substantially. But the actual figures do reflect considerable internal success in keeping the rise in unit costs down to a level below that of the inflationary pressures. This was the result in large measure of increased efficiencies, themselves due to a high level of capital expenditure, and to better organised working. A good deal of our capital expenditure went towards increased verticalisation. Without the verticalisation we have so far achieved, we do not feel we would have weathered, in our particular situation, the pressures of the last few years.

### GENERAL SURVEY

**Exports:** With our home market so flat—and we are UK based to the extent of 78 per cent of our production—we intensified our export efforts. We increased our exports by 15.5 per cent in value, to a record £113.6 million. And by rather more in volume. In world fibre and textile conditions, there was no benefit of increased export prices for us. I would point out that with our exports we have nothing to offer which our competitors cannot also offer. And our products are items of low unit price. So to become one of the largest exporters from the UK—a member of the top ten—has been very hard going. We received two Queen's Award Citations for export achievement last year, the fourth year in succession we have received such recognition. Our exports cover the whole field of Group activities, but some Divisions are more export orientated than others, exporting up to half their production. We intend to seek out further export opportunities in the years ahead. It will bring increasing success to your Company, in the medium and longer term. And benefit the Country at all times.

### FIBRES

**Viscose:** The great developments in fibre market growth in the 1960's were in the chemical fibres—nylon, polyester, and acrylic. The cellulose based man made fibres, of which viscose is the chief, grew only modestly and were overtaken first in value and then in volume by the chemical fibres. In 1970, chemical fibre production on a world basis continued to grow, but viscose and acetate output declined. At the beginning of the 1960's viscose was Courtaulds. It is now but a modest part of the Group, but is still important. I think after the world shake-out in viscose in the last two years, it will continue to be important.

Our viscose filament production for textile purposes is now carried out in only two factories, at Flint and Preston. During the last year we closed Wolverhampton and ceased production at Carrickfergus. The yarn is now getting back to its beginnings, a speciality, and as such is well fitted to certain end uses. We export 40 per cent of what we make. Last year the product made a loss, but this year the selling price has begun to harden. It would have to increase dramatically for new plant to be justified, and the product will always be vulnerable because it demands a relatively labour intensive process, and is easily and badly upset by labour troubles.

Viscose tyre yarn is also now made in only two factories, Preston and Carrickfergus. It is an excellent material for radial tyre reinforcement, but is under challenge from steel, polyester, and glass. Last year, after price increases, we made a profit on this activity. In the new financial year, demand has so far not been brisk and in addition strikes and stoppages have adversely affected operations. Viscose staple is a big volume item. We increased production slightly last year and exported nearly half

of it, the home market continuing to be flat. The product is at a crossroads. We ourselves made a small profit, and we feel that very few of our international competitors did. In some cases, we know they made large losses. As a result, a number of units are currently being shut down. In America and Japan, prices have begun to harden. We think the increased prices will probably stick, in which case our export business should be relatively favourable in 1972. Viscose staple is a very versatile material. Our newer varieties have been taken up more slowly than we expected, but their merits are being increasingly recognised. Given reasonable labour stability, we regard the future for our viscose staple in the 1970's with cautious optimism.

**Acetate:** "Diciel", "Tricel", and "Triclon" are fibres which have certain well established basic end uses, but depend on variants with a high fashion content for a satisfactory level of profits. In the past 12 months, sales and prices have both been affected by the great popularity of polyester in its various forms. We had planned for a considerable increase in output, and made provision for this. Our timing was wrong. We still have confidence that the increased availability will all be needed, but it currently looks as though this will not be before 1972.

**Profits from Chemicals and Plastics associated with Acetate Manufacture** were higher than in the previous year. **Nylon:** Our "Celon" units at Aintree and Spondon have operated well, and our product, in quality and variety, compares favourably with that of other and older established producers. Pressure on nylon prices was severe both at home and overseas. With their smaller scale of operations, our overseas units had a particularly hard struggle. We are turning these smaller units over to specialities as we develop the appropriate yarns.

**During the 1950's, and for part of the 1960's, the world's nylon producers had a very profitable time. It is different now. One has to be good to survive. We were not able to start on our own nylon plant constructions, which we did from scratch, until the mid-1960's, for reasons which are well known. We now have excellent units at Spondon and Aintree, and elsewhere, and are confident that in very competitive conditions we can continue to make a reasonable return on the capital outlay.**

**Acrylics:** "Courtelles" output went up last year, as planned, but profits began to be increasingly affected as the year proceeded, both by cost pressures and selling price pressures. More and more acrylics have become available from a variety of sources. We have decided to consolidate Grimsthy production at its present capacity of some 3,600,000 lbs/week. We are concentrating on bringing to the best pitch of efficiency the complex new units which have been installed in the last year or two. We are also updating our older units. In France, we have successfully completed the first stage of the expansion I referred to last year, and now have a capacity of 1,600,000 lbs/week. The second stage of the expansion is still under study. In America, conditions have not been suitable, as yet, to proceed with our proposed venture there.

**Acrylic fibre producers have met increasingly in the last 12 months the same pressures as nylon producers. We are fortunate that with "Courtelles" we have a very versatile fibre, and we are continuing to develop new variants and to find new outlets. Our mod-acrylic fibre "Telkan" had a very up and down year. The first half, as new outlets developed rapidly, was favourable. The second half saw severe setbacks in most overseas markets, which are still continuing. But taking the longer term view, the non-flammability properties of this fibre should lead to more stable and reasonably profitable outlets.**

**Polyester:** We were only able to start the construction of our first polyester unit, at Carrickfergus, at the beginning of last year. Good progress has been made. The first trial spinnings, which were encouraging, have already taken place. But commercial production, on a limited scale, will not be possible before the autumn, and it will be well into next year before the unit is fully operational. We are already considering an extension of the unit, beyond the initial 20 million lbs/year, but we have noted the rush by established producers to expand capacity, in view of the boom of the last 18 months. We must be satisfied our own process is fully competitive before proceeding.

**Other Fibres:** Our elastomeric fibre "Spanzelle" is doing better, and profit is increasing. Our steel cords unit was profitable, and we have made a number of improvements to the process. We have a participation in another unit, in France, which is steadily expanding, but have postponed going ahead with a second factory in the UK. Steel tyre cords have been a major success of the Michelin Tyre Company, and other tyre producers are increasingly interested in steel cord reinforcement for tyres. The unresolved question is whether there is major profitable scope for independent suppliers to the tyre companies, who drive very hard bargains.

**Our carbon fibre development proceeds steadily, if rather expensively. We have increased capacity, and also our range of new products, which include some very high performance material. We have reduced prices. But the considerable technological breakthrough represented by carbon fibres is still in the use-development stage. With the fall off in military spending in the USA, progress will be slower than the optimistic forecasts, so widely publicised, of two years ago.**

### TEXTILES

Our interests in the textiles and garment field had mixed fortunes. The Northern Spinning Division had a reasonably good year, and increased its use of Group fibres. The re-equipment programme, in its first phase, is

about 75 per cent complete, and the expected benefits have accrued. We now produce in 34 mills rather more yarn than was produced a few years ago in 54 mills, and it is yarn of better quality. We have made steady progress with the so-called break spinning technique, and these yarns are getting wider acceptance. The Division is not currently fully extended, a situation which will correct itself as the Northern Weaving Division advances with its planned expansion. The build up of looms at Lillyhall and Skelmersdale is proceeding, and extensions are in hand at Carlisle. The proportion of top quality cloth made is much better, as the new organisation settles down. Our sales and converting teams are more expert. In a year when UK woven cloth production from spin yarns decreased in yardage, we increased our own sales and our market share. The development losses now being made on this major venture are mainly unrecovered overheads. As production and sales build up, the position improves, as we intended and expected.

We have continued to develop our tops business in Yorkshire and our worsted spinning activities. Both made profits. We have also started up a new spinning unit for woollen yarns.

In filament weaving, production was also built up, and sales increased. The teething troubles of the various new types of looms we are pioneering in this country are yielding to treatment. And the low cost structure for which we were striving is beginning to appear as an achievable target. The Division has been reorganised, having outgrown its previous arrangements. The market for filament cloth in the UK has been depressed for some time, but there are currently signs of improvement. And our export efforts in filament weaving are also bearing fruit.

Warp knitting production has been increased, and extensions to capacity continue to be made. New efforts in warp knitting are continually sought, and new markets are opening up. Profitability fell last year, since increased costs were not recovered in better selling prices. But the new financial year has opened more favourably, and we expect the trend to continue.

In welt knitting, developments have been extensive. We have greatly expanded our interests in jersey fabrics, opening up new factories and extending existing factories. The rapid rate of expansion, with training costs, and testing costs, have affected our profits in this area of our business, as has our virtual exclusion, until recently, from the polyester based fabrics. But profits still showed excellent growth. We see the single and double knit business continuing to expand, but at a considerably lower pace, and we feel that a continuous flow of new fabrics and new ideas will be necessary to maintain the interest and indeed the excitement of the business. We have therefore established and are building up a strong development team.

Our fully fashioned knitwear units had a difficult year, with well established lines losing favour quite suddenly. New ideas, new constructions, and new marketing are beginning to bring some recovery. In panty-hose the year saw a dramatic fall in price and in profitability, a process which continued fiercely into the current year. Within the last few weeks, signs of returning confidence and slightly better conditions are appearing.

Lingerie had a poor year, with competition accordingly being very intense. There are still few signs of improvement here.

In men's wear and children's wear, we have made progress, and profits. We are still relatively small beer in men's shirts, which have become a fashion item, and have had boom times. On the other hand, we have maintained our strong position in men's underwear and made reasonable profits.

Our interests in such lines as trouser suits, bras and foundation garments, have made profits. The continued fashion swing away from elasticated fabrics, together with reduced sales of narrow waist band fabrics following changes in the design of panty-hose, lowered Clutson-Penn's profits. The development of new products has been speeded up and management changes made. Results are now improving.

As a general observation, it is only in the past few years that we have built up a major position in the garment area, and we have had a lot to learn in the running of such businesses. What we are now beginning to know is how to be much faster in our reactions, and in our ability to switch product lines. The whole garment field is so much more volatile than it was. We have to marry good organisation with entrepreneurial and fashion flair, and keep the marriages happy and successful.

An example of where we failed in 1970 was Moygashel. At the beginning of 1970, the linen loom lost popularity in the United States, by far Moygashel's biggest market. There had been dips in previous years, followed by recoveries, but in 1970 the sales failure accelerated, and then deepened drastically, beyond any previous post war experience. In a year, Moygashel turned from reasonable profitability to heavy loss. Corrective action—also expensive—has been taken. The outlook, with new lines, looks better for the autumn.

The turnover of our Wholesaling companies was slightly down, and profits were affected by rationalisation costs. But they now have an improved buying organisation and a more streamlined operation and are in good shape to become an efficient group distribution chain. Profits this year are improving.

In general textile servicing operations, such as yarn baling, dyeing, printing, twisting, etc., the Group had a successful year. We have been in these fields longer than with our garment activities, and the response to rapidly changing market conditions was good. We had our failures too, though, notably with Samuel Heap & Son, our spun woven dyeing and finishing unit, and with Standfast Dyers & Printers, also treating spun wovens. Both these units made considerable losses. We now seem to be getting Heaps right again, and action is in hand to improve Standfast. Looking back, our dash for survival and growth, coupled with numerous technological advances, put tremendous pressure on our managerial resources. But the experience has been a toughening process, and I can assure you that your Company now has excellent teams in being.

### PACKAGING

British Cellophane had a rough year with very difficult trading conditions. We did get very slight price increases, but as an example the average selling price of cellophane film in 1970 was only 24 per cent higher than in 1969, and only 6 per cent higher than in 1961. The polyolefin films had a hard year too, and the big new ventures in bonded fibre fabrics made slower progress than we hoped and had budgeted for. What one can say, is that British

Cellophane came through much better than its competitors. The start of the new financial year has been upset by labour difficulties. It is regrettable, and we have had very painful experience of this in many areas in the past two years, that operatives forcing work disruption do not seem to understand that the disruption makes it that much harder to make the profits and have the resources to go even part way in meeting their claims. But given reasonable labour stability, we feel we can come through 1971-72 fairly well.

### PAINT

The International Paint Company had to contend with difficult conditions, like the rest of the Group, and tackled them with vigour. The reconstituted management team, which I mentioned last year, is settling down very constructively. The bigger part of IPC's business is in production units overseas. There is an inflationary situation in varying degrees in each country in which the Group operates, and in some countries the rapid changes caught the managements on the wrong foot. The Group also has major interests in the marine world, where fixed price long term contracts have been as much a bug-bear to the paint supplier as to the ship building firms themselves.

### ENGINEERING

The Group's Engineering Division based upon Coventry is contracting, as a consequence of a lower overall Group capital programme and a dearth of new/breakmaking plants ordered by third parties. When the reshaping is complete, we expect this Group to earn satisfactory profits on the capital employed. We have a number of machinery companies, and I must single out one of them, Kirklands, which makes knitting machines for home and overseas markets. Kirklands achieved exceptional growth last year, and made satisfactory profits.

### OVERSEAS

The textile recession in the United States last year hit our interests there quite hard. It was not until early this year that our major unit at Mobile came up again to full production. We then had, in March, the misfortune to suffer a severe fire in the process plant, which destroyed the most up-to-date part of the factory, and caused the shutdown of the whole. Tremendous efforts by the local staff, with help from the UK, have resulted in all the runnables parts of the factory, nearly 70 per cent of the whole, being brought back on line. The destroyed areas have been cleared and the units are being rebuilt. We hope to have the factory fully restored by the spring of 1972.

Our French interests are going well. We have factories at Calais, Lille, Hellmes, Douai, Lyons, Colmar and other places. We make acrylic, nylon, and viscose fibres; we spin on the cotton and worsted systems; and we weave, knit and dye. We plan to continue to expand these varied activities. In Canada we improved our position in cellulose film, but had a poor year with viscose staple and nylon. We have progressively reduced our stake in Canada, a high cost country for fibres and textiles, and still have trouble in keeping our remaining interests viable.

In Australia, now very much a Japanese market, and a supplier to Japan, the profit fall I mentioned last year continued, and there has been a loss in the initial months of this current year. Changes we have made have now reversed the downward trend, and the current year should finish up with a small profit. In South Africa, our pulp and timber interests have expanded, and have made profits. Our textile interests there were adversely affected during the year by some rather large bad debts as some long established customers failed. The South African market

too has had a number of fashion swings, and these also affected profits. The current year has seen some restoration of a better position.

The forest and pulp mill in Swaziland had their best year since the inception of the project. In the current year, profits are lower because of the very unsettled conditions which have developed in the world market for unbleached kraft pulp, the main product of the Swaziland mill.

Our various other overseas interests performed satisfactorily.

### FINANCIAL

In depressed trading conditions, and with a heavy capital investment programme, and with inflation of the cost of all goods bought in, the control of our financial position has been arduous. But we finished the year with stocks and debtors under control, and with an adequate cash position. We need a strong cash position to finance the business as trade improves, as improve it will. On capital account, we had a year of maximum spending. But this year and next we expect to see a considerable fall off in such spending. We have modernised and extended a number of our existing factories, and built a number of new ones, and all are well equipped. We have the facilities to press forward with our verticalisation programme, and this we will do. Our competitive position, in nearly all our products, is now stronger than it was a year ago, two years ago, or five years ago.

A programme of the kind we have carried out in the past five years, involving the spending of some £250 million, is formidable. In large scale operations of this nature, the benefit accrues some years after initiation and even some years after completion of building, as new operational and marketing skills have to be acquired and developed. The interest charges on borrowed money come at once, however, and the depreciation charges come before the new plants are fully established and profitable. Our return on capital employed, in the year just ended, fell to 10.8 per cent, the lowest for several years. And our earnings per share, after a sharp rise in the first half of the 1960's, have been static for a few years. What we have been able to do is to increase the cash flow available for investment per share, and the table on page 5 of the Report and Accounts shows that this figure reached a peak last year. Your Company in the 1970's will increasingly benefit from the investment policies of the past five years.

### IMMEDIATE PROSPECTS

Our results for the first half of the 1971/72 year will reflect the heavy immediate pressures upon us, and will be down on 1970/71. The UK market overall has continued to be very depressed, and an upturn depends on Government policies. We have in recent months been operating below capacity in many Divisions, and resistance to price rises, in over-supplied markets, has been fierce. On the other hand, our own costs continue to rise, and the demands of our employees for more pay, to cope with their own inflationary pressures, grow no less. We have had some expensive work stoppages in recent months, in efforts to increase the pressures upon us. We have resisted unreasonable pressures, and will continue to do so.

On the other hand, we do have brighter areas appearing. We do think higher prices, both at home and overseas, will, by degrees, be accepted. It is our view that the Government cannot continue to let the British economy stagnate. Our results, with our heavy gearing, will respond quickly to an improved trading and pricing atmosphere.

Given the changes we expect to see, the second half of our financial year should see recovery from the setbacks I have reported. But it will not be until the first half year results are announced, in November, that it will be possible to be more specific.

### KEY POINTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

- 1 World trading conditions for fibres and textiles were difficult in 1970/71. Courtaulds Group profits before tax, at £41.7 million, were £10.4 million lower than the previous year. This was the result of increased costs, and unchanged selling prices overall. This was the second year of unchanged prices.
- 2 Costs—wages, salaries, raw materials, fuel and other items—rose by over £40 million. The rise in unit costs was kept down to a level below that of the inflationary pressures.
- 3 Exports from the UK increased by 15.5 per cent in value, and rather more in volume, to a record £113.6 million.
- 4 During the year there were a number of factory closures. There were also a number of expensive strikes and other interruptions to normal working. New factories were opened for those products showing growth.
- 5 Textiles and garments had a mixed year. The need to react rapidly to market and fashion changes became a key aspect and management changes were made to achieve this.
- 6 The experiences of the Group's overseas activities varied. The well-spread French interests showed good growth and it is planned to continue to expand these interests.
- 7 In the five years 1967-71 a total of some £250 million has been spent on modernising and extending existing plant and on building the new factories. The Company has been re-shaped. Capital spending will be at a lower level in the current year and next year.
- 8 Working capital has been kept under tight control, and the Group has an adequate cash position to finance improving business.
- 9 The results for the first half of the year 1971/72 will reflect the heavy immediate pressures on the Company, with many Divisions working below capacity, and costs still rising.
- 10 Brighter areas are now beginning to appear, and an upturn in the very depressed UK market is not thought to be far away. The Group is in a position to respond very quickly to an improved trading and pricing atmosphere. Given the changes that are expected, the second half of the financial year should see a recovery from the setbacks of the first half.

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

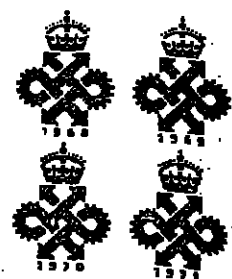
	Year ended 31st March	1971 £000	1970 £000
World Sales to third parties.....		659,583	626,546
Home Sales in the United Kingdom.....		403,260	383,881
Exports from the United Kingdom.....		113,618	98,336
Profit before Tax after Depreciation of £31.943m (1970 £28.208m).....		41,673	52,145
Attributable to Ord. Shareholders after Tax.....		23,574	26,519
Ordinary Dividends.....		18,546	18,545
Amounts per 25p Ordinary Share			
Earned after Corporation Tax.....		8.739p	9.831p
Dividends.....		6.875p	6.875p

Recipients of the Queen's Award to Industry in 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1971.

## COURTAULDS

The Resolutions for the adoption of the Directors' Report and the Accounts, for the re-election of Directors, and for the payment of the final dividend on 22nd July were carried at the Annual General Meeting held on 14th July, 1971.

Copies of the full Statement and of the Annual Report can be obtained from The Secretary, Courtaulds Ltd, 18 Hanover Square, London W1A 2BS.





**CAN BRITAIN compete?** Will the enlarged EEC be able to move towards deeper union? What about relations with the USA? These were among the questions discussed by M PAUL HUVELIN, president of the council of the French Patronat (the French employers' confederation) in an interview with RENE DABERNAT. M Huvelin is head of Kléber-Colombes, the French tyre manufacturer

Dabernat: What do you think will be the consequences for the British, French and European economies from enlargement of the Communities?

Huvelin: If the reports are to be believed, British opinion is mainly worried about food prices. According to the best authorities I can find, the British consumer will have to spend an extra 2.60 a year on food; and it is generally forgotten that this sum will be practically balanced by lower prices for other products, so that in effect joining the Common Market will have virtually no impact on the British cost of living.

However that may be, joining the Community can't be reduced to a simple profit and loss account. Isn't it mainly concerned with putting an end to the economic partition of Europe, and giving Britain and the other applicants an opportunity to join in the construction of a united Europe?

Some of the hostile reactions in Britain to joining are really pretty irrational. However, it can't be impossible to persuade British opinion that the EEC really does not intend to force the British to eat horseflesh instead of roast beef, as some people in the House of Commons seem to believe, or to flood the labour market in Northern Ireland with the Italian unemployed.

It is true that joining means for Britain a certain break with her past, and abandoning some of her more insular ideas. But on the evidence it also offers some immense advantages to the British economy, by way of access to a rapidly and reliably growing market of 200 million people.

The present social and economic climate in Britain is certainly not entirely favourable and hopeful, but all the same I think it would be a great mistake to underestimate the competitive strength of British enterprises.

On the contrary, it is very probable that entry will give a vigorous boost to the British economy, and that one will see

in the next few years an appreciable improvement in the British growth rate, which has been 2 per cent for the past two years, compared with an EEC average of 5 per cent.

French industry, for its own part, greeted the favourable result of the negotiations with great satisfaction. But that doesn't mean that the arrival of the Community will not present some very real problems to some sectors.

On the contrary, French industry must now get down to the job of assessing what the enlargement will mean, and how it will have to adapt itself. But as a counterpart to the extra competition they will meet, our enterprises will also discover new opportunities in the markets of the four applicant countries.

#### New chance

One should note that at the moment trade between Britain and France, and the French industrial presence across the Channel are both abnormally weak.

French industry takes only 4 per cent of the British market for imports. The enlargement will certainly give our exporters a chance to improve on that figure, through enlarging our commercial presence and investing in a bigger industrial stake in the UK economy.

From the point of view of the EEC as a whole it is clear that the chances of future development must be much improved in an enlarged Community, which can become a single market on the scale of the USA, and in which the conditions under which enterprises operate will be the same everywhere.

Dabernat: Will the political and economic integration of Europe be held up by the enlargement of the Communities, and British entry in particular?

Huvelin: For my part I believe that British entry will give the EEC the political and economic weight which it has

## EEC 'a chance to start Britain growing again'

so far lacked, and enable Europe to take its place among the super-powers.

The British Government, for its part, has given every indication one could have wished of its willingness to 'apply the rules of the Treaty of Rome without reservations or regrets, and to play its full part in building an economic and monetary union.

Certainly it is true that the enlargement from six to ten members will not speed the processes of decision-making in the Community. That is why it will take great energy and political will to achieve the true unification of the great European market, which business men hope to see completed in the next decade.

The recent monetary crisis has, however, demonstrated the imperative need, in the light of the degree of integration and interdependence which has already been achieved by the member-countries, to make further progress along this road, and quickly. Things cannot be left as they are.

Dabernat: What are your views on the effect of Denmark, Ireland and Norway joining the EEC? And on the problem of Switzerland and Sweden?

Huvelin: There is no problem from my point of view—from that of French employers—about the three other candidate-countries. But the question of the EFTA members who are not applicants is quite another matter; Switzerland and Sweden are two of these, and there are also Austria, Finland, Portugal and Iceland.

Granted that these countries cannot, for political reasons, simply join the EEC, it's a choice between two approaches: either a simple free trade area, or a Customs union backed by every possible measure of economic harmonisation—and above all, of course, applying the common external tariff of the EEC.

French industry has many times expressed its opposition to the idea of a free trade area. No country ought to be a mem-

ber of the EEC so far as its advantages are concerned, but outside when it comes to the obligations involved.

It ought to be inconceivable that the non-candidate countries could gain for themselves free access to the great Community market without at the same time submitting to the essential rules of harmonisation accepted by the member countries, and which are the precondition of fair and equal competition.

An enlarged Community wrapped up in a vast free trade area would have little chance of pushing its development any further, and there would be a high risk that it would slowly break up. It's not easy to imagine the member countries, including France, submitting themselves to steadily tighter constraints if some of their direct competitors escape them.

And we still have to decide whether the enlarged EEC will be content to take the place of the UK in EFTA at the risk of weakening its own cohesion, or whether it will insist on rules leading to tighter harmonisation and cooperation.

#### Counterweight

The Patronat has declared itself firmly in favour of the second solution.

Dabernat: Will the present special relationship between the USA and West Germany have to be modified?

Huvelin: You can't reduce the extraordinarily complex questions which govern international economic relations today to a simple matter of special relationships between two countries.

Your question refers to Germany and is based, it seems to me, on the idea which has been much put about recently, that one of the results of the enlargement of the EEC from the French point of view—indeed, one of the motives for wanting enlargement—is that Britain would provide a counterweight for the growing political and economic influence of

Without trying to refute that idea—though I believe it could be done—I simply raise this question: What would have been the long-term outlook for a Community of six?

The fact is that if the negotiations had broken down again the construction of Europe would have been held up for a long period and the EEC would probably have been reduced step by step to a simple Customs union.

The question of future relations between an enlarged EEC and the USA is of vital importance. On monetary questions it is already urgently necessary to start a dialogue with the USA to find some remedy for a situation which could quickly become dangerous.

But it seems to me that such a negotiation, whatever the issues, can only succeed if a group of sufficient economic weight is to get a tight monetary cooperation working inside the Community with the least possible delay.

So far as trade is concerned, on the other hand, the enlarged Community will be by far the biggest commercial Power in the world, since its external trade will be one-and-a-half times as big as that of the USA and three times as big as that of Japan.

The Americans are undoubtedly worried about the fact that enlargement will create a vast preferential trade area from which they will be excluded. They are already asking for the earliest possible start on a new round of world-wide trade negotiations.

The present state of uncertainty is no help to the USA, to the enlarged Community, or toward the solution of any important problem.

So one of the first jobs for the enlarged Community will be to clarify its relationship not only with the USA, but with its trading partners all over the world.

## No hope of cut in mortgage interest

Nationwide, Britain's third largest building society, came out against the reduction of mortgage interest rates yesterday. Mr Leonard Williams, Nationwide's general manager, said that nothing should be done to impair the flow of funds into the housing market.

Mr Williams said that Nationwide is lending £20 million a month—far from satisfying demands.

"It is true that building societies are going to benefit this year from the lower rate of Corporation Tax, from the recently announced reduction in the composite rate of income tax, and from the halving of the Selective Employment Tax," he explained.

"The fact is, however, that we could only bring down the mortgage rate by a material fraction if we were also to reduce the rate of interest we pay to our investors."

"This would not help prospective house buyers or existing home owners."

"It would lead to less money being available, difficulty in buying houses and in selling."

"While people might have been saving more in recent months, personal savings could drop, and price increases catch up with wage and salary rises early next year."

"In addition, competition for savings was very keen and could grow if the banks increased efforts to attract small savings."

Nationwide approved £105 millions of mortgages in the first six months of this year—54 per cent more than in the same period of 1970.

The society received £144 millions from investors during the half year, and after allowing for £141 millions in redemptions, net inflows were £3 million compared with £42 millions in the first half of last year.

With total assets exceeding £227 millions the society is growing at the rate of 17 per cent a year.

## Record for Bristol and West

Record home loans of nearly £16 millions were completed by the Bristol and West Building Society in the first six months of 1971, 28 per cent up on the same period last year.

This rise was possible because of a record inflow of new savings. Gross investment receipts of £32½ millions were nearly 30 per cent better than the £25 millions received in the first half of 1970.

After withdrawals, net investment inflows were £14½ millions compared with £11½ millions.

The society's total assets are now £163,712,000, 23.81 per cent more than last year's £132,232,000.

## Dobson Park link justified

Dobson Park Industries interim results announced yesterday fully justify the reasoning for the IRC-backed merger between Dobson Hardwick and William Park two years ago.

Pre-tax profits of the combined group have nearly trebled from £750,000 to £2 millions for the six months ended April on sales up 39 per cent at £17.4 millions.

Owing to holidays and higher costs, it is not expected that profits for the second half will equal those of the first six months. However, it forecasts an increase of around 64 per cent to £3.5 millions for the full year.

The board is to raise the interim dividend by one point to 11 per cent.

The company's mining machinery division, which supplies hydraulic pipedrops to the National Coal Board, has made nearly all the running, with profits up from £397,000 to £1.6 millions.

This reflects a major recovery by the Gullick subsidiary, whose profits slumped from £1 million to £265,000 last year because of merger problems and heavy development expenditure. In addition demand has been at an exceptionally high level.

The shares increased 5p to a new closing high at 46p, after touching 50p.

## Metrication advance

Metric dimensions will be used in virtually all new work in the public sector of the construction industry by the end of this year, Mr Paul Channon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of the Environment, said in London yesterday.

Opening a conference on metrication for those in the building and civil engineering industries, he said that by the end of last year two thirds of all such work was being carried out to metric scale.

The industry was well ahead of its 1973 target for full metrication.

## Profit leap by NFC hive-off candidate

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

Atlantic Steam Navigation, which is expected to be hived off from the State-owned National Freight Corporation, boosted its profits by nearly 400 per cent to £802,000 last year, according to the annual report of the NFC published yesterday.

Atlantic Steam is one of two NFC subsidiaries expected to be hived off. The other, Associated Humber Lines made a loss of £324,000 last year, a slight improvement on 1969. The two companies are expected to be sold as a package with European Ferries, the most likely buyer.

These appear to be the only parts of the corporation likely to be hived off. Its other interests, including British Road Services, National Carriers and Pickfords will stay with the corporation.

This means that under its new chairman, Mr Dan Pettit from Unilever, the NFC envisages virtually unscathed by having—since it was already negotiating to sell its shipping subsidiaries (admittedly with British Rail rather than a private sector company) before the election.

The annual report states that profits of the freight corporation recovered from £3.9 millions to £5.2 millions last year. However, after paying long-term interest payments of £6.8 millions this is reduced to a loss of £1.2 millions. The NFC considers that since its capital structure is largely composed of fixed interest debt its long-term interest repayments are comparable to dividends paid by an ordinary company.

Losses are covered by a grant up to a maximum of £80 million but it looks unlikely that more than £40 millions will be drawn on.

Far from contracting under the new Government the NFC looks poised for an interesting period of expansion. If Britain enters the Common Market the ability to offer continental carriage will be increasingly important and the NFC is planning to expand its outlets.

The annual report also contains a unique feature: a statement from leading trade unionists including Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and Sir Sidney Greene of the NUR saying how the unions want the NFC to become a "very big industrial success."

## Fire loss almost £10M down

By our own Reporter

Fire damage to property decreased during 1970 by almost £10 millions, Britain's chief fire officer said in his annual report, published yesterday. It was the first drop for five years.

Sir Henry Smith, Chief Inspector of Fire Services, said the estimated fire losses last year were £110.9 millions, compared with £120 millions in 1969. But he warned that property losses have risen from £44 millions over the past 10 years, "and it is still too early to see whether the 1970 figure is other than a chance deviation from the upward trend."

"There will certainly be no complacency but even increased effort by all concerned to fight this menace of fire to the public and to the economy of the country," he said.

The CWS welcomes the emphasis which the department puts on the need for collaboration between the local authorities. Collaboration in the past could have prevented "much extensive duplication of new retailing facilities in adjacent centres," they argue.

The fear among many local authorities that out-of-town hypermarkets could drain too much trade from existing shopping centres is also dealt with in the CWS letter.

The CWS estimates that in spite of closure of existing shops, there will be an annual rise in future shop business of at least 2.5 per cent per annum in Manchester and South Lancashire, where retail trade is around £262 millions a year. The CWS have asked for a further meeting with Mr Graham Page, Minister of Local Government and Development.

## Hickson profit hopes fulfilled

The higher profits forecast last March for Hickson and Welch, the chemical products group, have materialised with a 32 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £1.32 millions for the six months ended March.

The board is to raise the interim dividend by one point to 7 per cent. On the announcement the shares surged 25p to an all-time high, 357½p.

The company's mining machinery division, which supplies hydraulic pipedrops to the National Coal Board, has made nearly all the running, with profits up from £397,000 to £1.6 millions.

This reflects a major recovery by the Gullick subsidiary, whose profits slumped from £1 million to £265,000 last year because of merger problems and heavy development expenditure. In addition demand has been at an exceptionally high level.

The shares increased 5p to a new closing high at 46p, after touching 50p.

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# National Freight Corporation

## A YEAR OF STEADY PROGRESS AND SOLID ACHIEVEMENTS

### Results of the Year 1970

In its second Annual Report (just published) the NFC records a year of steady progress, the operating performance of the Corporation showing an over-all improvement of £5.6m. compared with 1969. This reflects the substantial reduction of £3.6m. in the loss of National Carriers Ltd. When the NFC inherited the business of NCL there was a deficit of around £20m. a year, so that the measures taken by the NFC have effectively improved the trading performance of that particular undertaking. In addition, the profits of the remaining activities of the Corporation increased by £2.0m. in 1970. Against the profit for the year of £5.6m. there has to be set long-term interest of £6.8m. This represents interest on the Capital Liabilities of the undertaking and can properly be regarded as a return to the proprietors in the same sense as a dividend paid by a limited company with capital in the form of Ordinary or Preference Shares.

#### COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL RESULTS

	1970		1969	
	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.
<b>Operating Results</b>				
National Carriers .....	(loss)	11.5	15.1	
Freightliners (51%) .....	(loss)	0.4	1.1	
Other Transport (net) .....	(profit)	5.2	3.9	
	(loss)	6.7	12.3	
Grant for National Carriers .....		13.4	17.0	
<b>Operating Profits (including Shipping) after Grant .....</b>		6.7	4.7	
Short-term interest and Headquarters' expenses .....		1.1	0.8	
<b>Profits (before long-term interest) .....</b>		5.6	3.9	
Interest on Capital Liabilities and other long-term borrowings .....		6.8	5.8	
<b>Loss for year .....</b>		1.2	1.9	

The grant for NCL covers not only its operating loss but also the interest borne by NFC on that part of its Capital Liabilities applicable to NCL. The 1969 grant, shown above as £17.0m., was subsequently reduced to £16.0m., so that on a comparable basis the loss for the year 1970 was £1.7m. less than in the preceding year.

### Trades Unions

An important element in sustaining NFC achievements has been the ready co-operation of the Unions and the staff in productivity arrangements and in many other fields. It would be impossible to

exaggerate how much the success of the NFC depends upon productivity-conscious management and staff co-operating together. It is therefore all the more gratifying to record that relations with the Trades Unions continue first class.

### The Future

The days of road haulage as we knew it years ago are gone—there is no merit in the mere ability to move a load from A to B, grateful though we must always be to the pioneers of the past who made it possible for today's more sophisticated approach.

The NFC regards transport and distribution as an all-embracing process. In most businesses it is in transport, warehousing and distribution expenditure that the cost legacies of everyone else's business decisions and judgements are finally located. Extravagant inventories, peaking and troughing of traffics carried, market failures, misinvestment in production facilities, labour troubles in the line of manufacture and supply, finish up as a transport cost. The NFC covers the whole gamut—from the gathering up of raw material to the ultimate delivery to the consumer and involves such things as packaging, warehousing and inventory control as well as transport in the various stages between the beginning and the end. Its companies claim to be professional and expert in their respective fields at each and every stage—and their advice is available to help the customer to achieve the high degree of efficiency and economy which is essential to his survival. Market research in support of our clients, direct and indirect, will be intensified in 1971.

Perhaps more than anything else the NFC should set itself out to be a "pacemaker" in the freight transport industry. It has no monopoly—it lives in a competitive world in which a few large units are outnumbered by a very large number of small units. It must strive constantly to be in the lead, in research, in technology, in the quality of its operating and the skill of its management and staff, in the harnessing of professional expertise, in productivity and profitability.

The NFC comprises major interests taken over from two different sources. From British Railways Board it took over National Carriers and control of the Freightliner company. The NFC also inherited the road freight undertakings of the Transport Holding Company, where the main constituents were the General Haulage grouping (mainly British Road Services Ltd.), the BRS Parcels grouping, Tayforth, Harold Wood and the three major divisions of Pickfords (Furniture Removal, Heavy Haulage and Tankers).

Further details are in the Annual Report, copies of which can be obtained on application to the Secretary at Argory House, 215 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6BD.





















Eventually he was second to D. Halliday (RAF)



